

THE SOCIAL SURVEY IN
TOWN AND COUNTRY AREAS

H. N. MORSE

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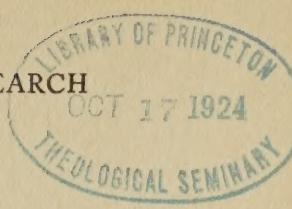
THE SOCIAL SURVEY IN
TOWN AND COUNTRY AREAS

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INSTITUTE OF SOCIAL AND RELIGIOUS RESEARCH

TOWN AND COUNTRY STUDIES
EDMUND DE S. BRUNNER, Director



THE SOCIAL SURVEY IN TOWN AND COUNTRY AREAS

A STATISTICAL AND GRAPHIC SUMMARY OF SURVEY DATA
FROM ONE HUNDRED SEVENTY-NINE TYPICAL COUN-
TIES WITH AN ANALYSIS OF THE AIM AND
METHOD OF THE SOCIAL SURVEY AS APPLIED
TO THE STUDY OF TOWN AND COUNTRY
PROBLEMS

BY

H. N. MORSE

WITH MAPS AND
CHARTS



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FOREWORD

THIS volume, the final volume of the Series of *Town and Country Surveys* issued by the Institute of Social and Religious Research, is in the nature of a footnote to the other volumes of the series and especially to *The Town and Country Church in the United States*. Part I presents, in the form of tables and charts, a selection of the most important of the statistical material underlying the regional narratives and the topical discussions of the other volumes. Each regional narrative presents with a wealth of illustration and detail the social setting of a part of this material. *The Town and Country Church in the United States* interprets the material in its bearing upon the social and religious problems of the town and country area. The present purpose is to make the statistical data available in a form convenient for reference. Part II presents an analysis of the aim and method of the social survey as related particularly to religious interests and to the work of the town and country church.

The reader is referred to the "Introduction" of *The Town and Country Church in the United States* for a full statement as to the surveys from which the material here presented is drawn.

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THE SOCIAL SURVEY IN
TOWN AND COUNTRY AREAS

PART ONE

THE SOCIAL SURVEY IN TOWN AND COUNTRY AREAS

PART ONE

A Statistical and Graphic Summary of Survey Data from 179 Typical Counties, Supplemented by Material from the U. S. Census and Other Sources

MOST of the data here presented are from field studies made by the Institute of Social and Religious Research though material has also been drawn from the files of the Interchurch World Movement and rechecked and verified by the Institute. Supplementary material has been drawn from the U. S. Census and other sources in the analysis of population.

Each table and chart carries a statement of the source of its material. Four different designations are used, as follows:

(a) *Twenty-five counties.* The tables so marked are based upon twenty-five counties which were intensively surveyed by the Institute of Social and Religious Research and which are the subjects of the regional volumes of this series. In regional comparisons these counties have been combined into five regions, Colonial, South, Middle West, Range and Pacific. This is a deviation from the regional division of the United States as shown on the map on page 21 and as discussed in Chapter I of *The Town and Country Church in the United States*. It was occasioned by the fact that in certain regions the number of counties surveyed was too small to permit representative results for each of the larger number of regions. Table II gives the names of these twenty-five counties by states and regions.

(b) *179 counties.* The tables so marked are based upon 179 counties which include the twenty-five above referred to. The other 154 were counties surveyed by the Interchurch World Movement. In regional comparisons of the 179 counties, an eight-fold regional basis is used. This corresponds exactly to the regional outline shown on the map on page 21, with the exception that the South-

SOCIAL SURVEY IN TOWN AND COUNTRY AREAS

ern Mountain region there shown is here treated as a part of the South. Table I gives the names of these counties by states and regions with the total town and country population and the number of churches in each.

(c) *1920 United States Census.* Tables drawn from the Census refer to the entire continental area of the United States.

(d) *1920 United States Census, supplemented by other data.* The tables so marked refer to the entire continental area of the United States but go beyond the available Census data. An explanation of the method used is appended to each such table.

In all tables, except as otherwise noted, the following limitations have been observed:

(a) Church data refer only to white Protestant churches.

(b) Total population means total town and country population, defined as including all population living outside of incorporated places of over 5,000, with the exception that the Negro population has been eliminated from the Southern counties.

(c) A town indicates a place of from 2,501 to 5,000 population; a village a place of from 251 to 2,500; a hamlet a place of from 25 to 250; the remaining town and country population is termed open-country. Where the term country is used in a three-fold comparison with town and village it includes both hamlet and open-country.

A. The Counties Selected

There is every reason to believe that the counties selected for these studies are a representative sample of the town and country area of the United States. Many factors had to be taken into account in making the selection. The first of these was that the selection had to be limited to counties that had been completely surveyed by the Interchurch World Movement. It was not possible to make a free choice solely on the basis of representative conditions.

The 179 counties, named in Table I, have an average town and country population of 14,370, about 4,000 less than the average for the entire United States. They are drawn from forty-four different states. The only states not represented are Rhode Island, Delaware, Virginia and Mississippi. The distribution among states and regions leaves a little to be desired. Certain states are not as well represented as their importance would seem to warrant. For example there are only two counties from New York, three from Pennsylvania, one (a mountain county) from Kentucky, two from

A STATISTICAL AND GRAPHIC SUMMARY

TABLE I

179 SELECTED COUNTIES—BY REGIONS

I. Colonial

<i>State</i>	<i>County</i>	<i>Town & Country Population</i>	<i>No. of Churches</i>
Connecticut	Middlesex	25,421	48
Maine	Knox	18,136	40
	Waldo	16,245	51
Massachusetts	Barnstable	26,670	63
	Dukes	4,372	14
	Nantucket	2,797	5
	Norfolk	37,030	38
New Hampshire	Carroll	15,017	50
New Jersey	Atlantic	20,903	35
	Mercer	20,095	27
	Salem	12,352	30
New York	Tompkins	18,281	57
	Warren	15,035	47
Pennsylvania	Columbia	28,349	100
	Forest	7,477	30
	Northampton	49,877	104
Vermont	Addison	18,666	40
	Franklin	20,855	51
	Grand Isle	3,784	9
	Lamoille	11,858	21
Regional Total	20 Counties	373,220	860

II. Southern Region (*Negro population and churches not included*)

<i>State</i>	<i>County</i>	<i>Town & Country Population</i>	<i>No. of Churches</i>
Alabama	Colbert	18,144	43
	Calhoun	23,382	73
	Geneva	24,911	91
Florida	Citrus	2,695	19
	Flagler	1,484	4
	Gadsden	8,727	26
	Hamilton	5,610	27
	Hillsborough	23,129	53
	Jefferson	3,981	17
	Leon	5,892	14
	Madison	8,077	41
	Nassau	6,311	25
	Osceola	6,073	14
	Palm Beach	13,142	19
	Pasco	6,704	30
	Pinellas	19,712	40
	Polk	31,242	66
Georgia	Banks	9,266	34
	Bibb	8,377	18
	Carroll	26,387	87
	Clayton	6,153	22
	Columbia	3,467	19
	Crisp	5,781	20
	Dawson	4,204	15
	Douglas	7,526	27

SOCIAL SURVEY IN TOWN AND COUNTRY AREAS

TABLE I (*Continued*)

179 SELECTED COUNTIES—BY REGIONS

II. Southern Region (*Negro population and churches not included*)

<i>State</i>	<i>County</i>	<i>Town & Country Population</i>	<i>No. of Churches</i>
	Echols	2,267	9
	Floyd	20,677	49
	Harris	4,566	29
	Hart	12,320	34
	Jefferson	5,707	17
	Jones	3,866	24
	Lee	1,927	11
	Lumpkin	5,023	27
	Monroe	7,375	47
	Montgomery	4,819	27
	Paulding	12,418	42
	Pike	10,318	46
	Pulaski	4,423	18
	Quitman	1,027	7
	Randolph	5,721	27
	Taliaferro	2,611	14
	Telfair	10,286	40
	Webster	2,262	12
	Wheeler	6,255	22
	White	5,709	29
	Wilkinson	5,752	34
Kentucky	Harlan	28,645	32
Louisiana	East Baton Rouge ..	8,193	14
	West Baton Rouge ..	3,607	3
Maryland	Harford	24,687	74
North Carolina	Ashe	20,499	120
	Durham	14,986	36
	Orange	12,260	53
South Carolina	Barnwell	7,498	34
	Calhoun	5,780	25
Tennessee	Blount	18,898	79
	Dickson	16,995	38
	Hickman	14,288	49
	Johnson	11,924	49
	Lewis	5,093	16
	McMinn	23,210	69
	Overton	17,416	42
	Perry	7,410	26
	Pickett	5,199	17
	Polk	14,135	38
	Putnam	21,425	62
	Rhea	12,911	45
	Unicoi	10,116	20
	Van Buren	2,574	6
West Virginia	Raleigh	36,089	59
Regional Total	70 Counties	764,581	2,415

A STATISTICAL AND GRAPHIC SUMMARY

TABLE I (*Continued*)

179 SELECTED COUNTIES—BY REGIONS

III. South West Region

<i>State</i>	<i>County</i>	<i>Town & Country Population</i>	<i>No. of Churches</i>
Arkansas	Montgomery	11,112	68
Missouri	Atchison	13,008	36
	Ozark	11,125	23
	Stone	11,941	27
	Taney	8,178	23
Oklahoma	McClain	19,326	15
	Oklahoma	25,012	21
Texas	Gonzales	25,310	25
	Kleberg	3,067	2
	LaSalle	4,821	10
	Pecos	3,857	6
	Presidio	12,202	4
	Rockwall	8,591	23
	Starr	11,089	1
	Zavalla	3,108	6
Regional Total	15 Counties	171,747	290

IV. North West Region

<i>State</i>	<i>County</i>	<i>Town & Country Population</i>	<i>No. of Churches</i>
Minnesota	Rock	10,965	28
	Wilkin	10,187	24
Montana	Beaverhead	7,369	6
	Chouteau	11,051	16
	Gallatin	15,864	21
	Granite	4,167	5
North Dakota	Nelson	10,362	22
South Dakota	Hughes	5,711	15
	Jackson	2,472	5
	Kingsbury	12,802	18
Regional Total	10 Counties	90,950	160

V. Middle West Region

<i>State</i>	<i>County</i>	<i>Town & Country Population</i>	<i>No. of Churches</i>
Illinois	Champaign	56,959	99
Indiana	Jennings	13,280	43
	Tippecanoe	16,497	41
Iowa	Clay	15,660	33
	Keokuk	20,983	64
Michigan	Antrim	11,543	35
	Baraga	7,622	4
	Montmorency	4,089	7
	Muskegon	25,792	22
Ohio	Crawford	13,942	50
	Coshcocton	18,748	71

SOCIAL SURVEY IN TOWN AND COUNTRY AREAS

TABLE I (*Continued*)

179 SELECTED COUNTIES—BY REGIONS

V. Middle West Region

<i>State</i>	<i>County</i>	<i>Town & Country Population</i>	<i>No. of Churches</i>
Wisconsin	Fulton	23,445	72
	Holmes	18,965	49
	Lucas	32,557	42
	Madison	19,662	38
	Morrow	15,570	60
	Perry	36,098	97
	Summit	35,936	55
	Trumbull	37,234	67
	Union	20,918	57
	Wyandot	19,481	51
	Price	18,517	30
	Sheboygan	28,958	59
Regional Total	23 Counties	512,456	1,146

VI. Prairie Region

<i>State</i>	<i>County</i>	<i>Town & Country Population</i>	<i>No. of Churches</i>
Kansas	Sedgwick	20,017	53
Nebraska	Grant	1,486	3
Regional Total	2 Counties	21,503	56

VII. Range Region

<i>State</i>	<i>County</i>	<i>Town & Country Population</i>	<i>No. of Churches</i>
Arizona	Santa Cruz	12,689	10
Colorado	San Miguel	5,281	2
Idaho	Weld	43,924	54
	Benewah	6,997	10
	Custer	3,550	2
	Gem	6,427	10
	Kootenai	17,878	31
Nevada	Twin Falls	20,074	17
	Pershing	2,803	2
	Luna	12,270	6
New Mexico	Lincoln	7,823	3
	Otero	7,902	5
	Union	16,680	27
	Beaver	5,139	2
	Box Elder	18,788	3
Utah	Cache	26,992	3
	Davis	11,450	3
	San Pete	17,505	5
	Sevier	11,281	3
	Big Horn	12,105	14
Wyoming	Converse	7,871	9
	Fremont	11,820	11
	Hot Springs	5,164	5

A STATISTICAL AND GRAPHIC SUMMARY

TABLE I (*Continued*)

179 SELECTED COUNTIES—BY REGIONS

VII. Range Region

<i>State</i>	<i>County</i>	<i>Town & Country Population</i>	<i>No. of Churches</i>
	Natrona	14,635	6
	Park	7,298	9
	Sheridan	18,182	17
Regional Total	26 Counties	332,528	275

VIII. Pacific Region

<i>State</i>	<i>County</i>	<i>Town & Country Population</i>	<i>No. of Churches</i>
California	Kern	54,843	27
	Orange	35,480	40
	Solano	19,495	14
	Santa Clara	49,914	31
	Stanislaus	34,316	44
Oregon	Crook	3,424	10
	Lane	25,573	51
	Morrow	5,617	14
Washington	Benton	10,903	24
	Chelan	20,906	40
	Ferry	5,143	5
	Pend Oreille	6,363	7
	Skagit	33,373	43
Regional Total	13 Counties	305,350	350
Grand Total	179 Counties	2,572,335	5,552

TABLE II

TWENTY-FIVE SELECTED COUNTIES—BY REGIONS

NOTE: With the smaller number of counties only five regions are used; certain counties are differently classified on this basis.

I. Colonial Region

Vermont	Addison
Pennsylvania	Columbia
New Jersey	Salem
New York	Tompkins
New York	Warren
Maryland	Harford *

II. Southern Region

Alabama	Colbert
North Carolina	Durham
North Carolina	Orange
Tennessee	Blount
Texas	Rockwall *

III. Middle West Region

Iowa	Clay
Indiana	Jennings
Wisconsin	Price
Wisconsin	Sheboygan
Missouri	Atchison *
Kansas	Sedgwick *

IV. Range Region

Montana	Beaverhead *
South Dakota	Hughes *
Wyoming	Sheridan
New Mexico	Union

* These counties have a regional classification different from that used in Table I.

SOCIAL SURVEY IN TOWN AND COUNTRY AREAS

TABLE II (*Continued*)

TWENTY-FIVE SELECTED COUNTIES—BY REGIONS

V. Pacific Region

Oregon	Lane
Washington	Pend Oreille
California	Orange
California	Stanislaus

South Carolina, one from Kansas and one (a very unrepresentative county) from Nebraska. The Prairie Region as a whole is the least adequately represented of any. Certain states have a rather disproportionate number of counties included. For example, there are fourteen from Florida, twenty-nine from Georgia and fourteen (chiefly mountain counties) from Tennessee. The inclusion of six from Utah might seem to give rather undue weight to the peculiar conditions existing in that state. It may, therefore, be frankly admitted that the list is not an ideal one. On the other hand, all things considered, it yields a reasonably representative average. There is no good reason to doubt that the results here given are generally typical. The twenty-five counties, named in Table II, would bear the closest scrutiny. In selecting them a very considerable range of choice was possible. Each was attested as representative of its section. A remarkably close correspondence in results between the twenty-five counties and the entire 179 indicates the general reliability of the data drawn from the larger number.

B. The Distribution of Population

There are significant differences between regions in the distribution of total population as urban or town and country. These differences are discussed in detail in the summary volume of this series,¹ Chapter I. The Colonial region is the most predominantly urban, as it is the most thoroughly industrialized region of the United States. The Pacific and Middle West regions are next in order, but have a materially smaller proportion of their total population in urban centers. The other five regions are closely grouped, each having less than a third of its population urban.

Table III is primarily based upon the 1920 U. S. Census. The reader is referred to Chapter II of the summary volume for an explanation of the difference in procedure in the handling of popu-

¹ *The Town and Country Church in the United States*, referred to throughout this discussion as the summary volume.

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Map showing the regional divisions adopted for Interchurch World Movement surveys, with the location of the twenty-six counties resurveyed by the Institute of Social and Religious Research. The data from the resurvey of the twenty-six counties are presented on a basis of five regions instead of nine, because of the small number of counties restudied. The Mountain division and most of the Southwest were combined with the South, and the Northwest was divided between the Range and the Middle West, with which region the Prairie was also placed.

SOCIAL SURVEY IN TOWN AND COUNTRY AREAS

TABLE III
GENERAL POPULATION SUMMARY—BY REGIONS
(For entire United States from 1920 Census, supplemented by other data)

Region	Total Number of States	Counties	Communities	Population	Total		Per Cent. of Total		Town & Country Area	
					No.	Pop.	Comm.	Pop.	Per Cent. of Total	Pop.
Colonial	9	217	10,959	29,662,053	531	21,269,320	71.7	10,428	8,392,733	28.3
South	13	965	31,021	24,682,088	216	6,062,154	24.6	30,805	18,619,934	75.4
Middle West	6	535	12,443	23,879,564	376	12,892,098	54.0	12,067	10,987,466	46.0
South West	4	525	8,614	11,847,770	129	3,390,720	28.6	8,485	8,457,050	71.4
North West	4	258	3,772	4,219,433	53	1,241,974	29.4	3,719	2,977,459	70.6
Prairie	2	198	2,174	3,065,629	41	841,139	27.4	2,133	2,224,490	72.6
Range	7	218	2,542	2,787,212	88	843,742	30.3	2,454	1,943,470	69.7
Pacific	3	133	3,219	5,566,871	80	3,169,503	56.9	3,139	2,397,368	43.1
Total	48	3,049	74,744	105,710,620	1,514	49,710,650	47.0	73,230	55,999,970	53.0

A STATISTICAL AND GRAPHIC SUMMARY

lation figures between the census and this survey. In considering the tables in this section it should be noted, *first*, that the regional classification of states here used differs materially from the census classification; *second*, the census includes under urban population the population of all incorporated places of 2,500 population or over, while the survey limits the use of the term "urban" to places of over 5,000. The population figures used here are the census figures, but their classification is different from that in the census.

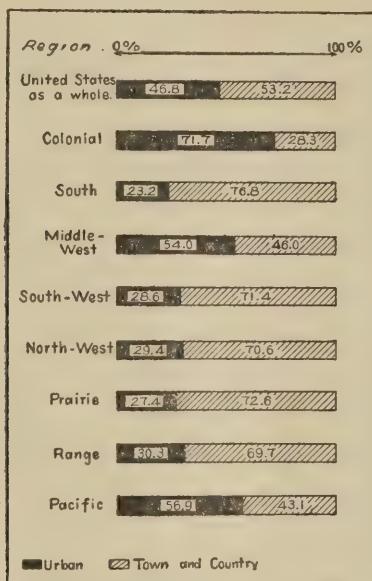


CHART I

DISTRIBUTION OF TOTAL POPULATION
—URBAN OR TOWN AND COUNTRY

In Table III the columns giving the total number of communities and the number of communities in the town and country area are based solely upon survey data. The census confines itself to civil divisions. The figures given here for number of communities are estimated for each region on the basis of the surveyed counties within that region. The number of cities, as given for each region, is based upon the census.

Tables IV, V and VI present an analysis of the total town and country population. In these tables only the total population is taken from the census. Towns, villages and hamlets are not separately noted in the census unless they are incorporated. The practice

A STATISTICAL AND GRAPHIC SUMMARY

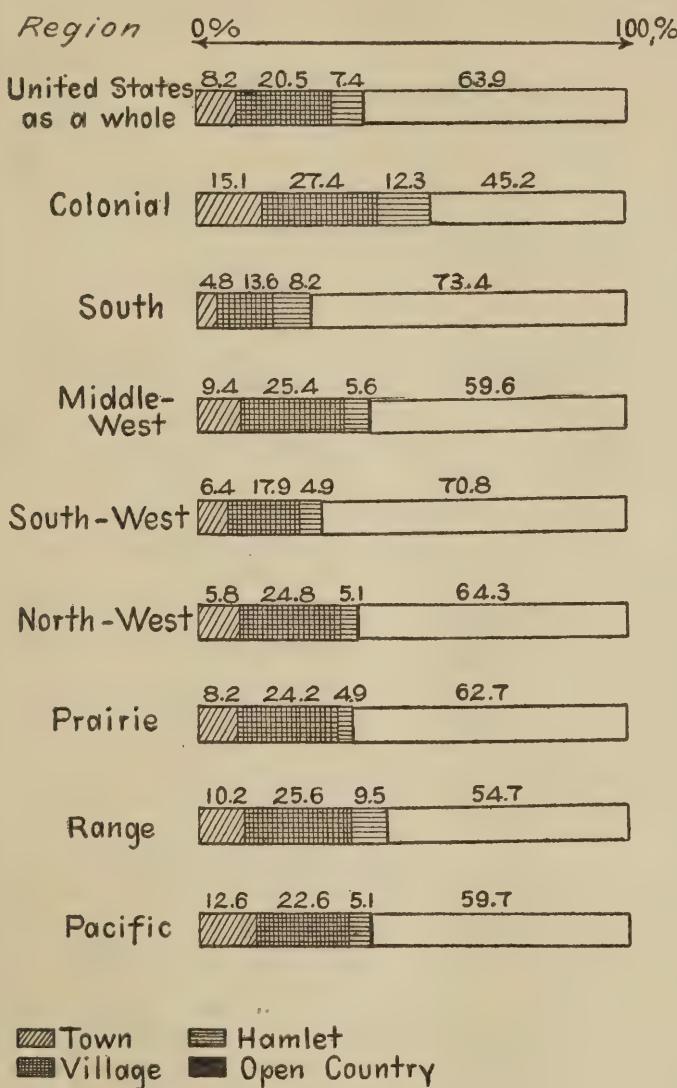


CHART II

DISTRIBUTION OF TOWN AND COUNTRY POPULATION BY PLACE OF RESIDENCE

SOCIAL SURVEY IN TOWN AND COUNTRY AREAS

of incorporation shows wide variations throughout the United States. There are incorporated places with as small a population as eleven, and unincorporated places of more than 5,000 population. The total number of towns, villages and hamlets and the total population within each of these classes of communities could not, therefore, be obtained with even approximate accuracy from the census. The estimates presented here utilize the survey data for the 179 counties supplemented by a careful count of all places shown on the best maps and listed in atlases and various commercial registers. The number of open country communities is estimated solely from the survey data.

Table IV shows the number of towns, villages and hamlets with the aggregate population and the percentage of the total town and country population resident in each type of center. The remaining town and country population is classed as "open country." Towns, villages and hamlets are not here treated as communities but simply as population centers; *i.e.*, the totals given do not include such open country population as is included within the boundaries of town, village and hamlet communities. Table VI, on the other hand, shows not only the average population of towns, villages and hamlets but also the average number of open country people resident within town, village and hamlet communities, thus permitting an estimate of the total population of town, village and hamlet communities. It is obvious, therefore, that if the average population of open country communities (Table VI) is multiplied by the number of open country communities (Table V) the resultant total would be less than the total open country population (Table IV), the difference representing the open country population within town, village and hamlet communities, as averaged in Table VI, plus the open country population attached to city communities.

The detailed distribution of open country population is given in Table VII. The method used in arriving at these estimates is explained in Chapter II of the summary volume. Briefly it was an application to the total population figures of the averages derived from the 179 counties, corrected, where necessary, by the data drawn from atlases and similar sources.

The census of 1920 was the first census to report separately the population resident on farms. For previous census years this could be estimated only from the number of farms reported. The value of accurate figures as to farm population is so evident that it has been thought wise to include them here. Table VIII is based entirely on these census returns, with the states grouped according

A STATISTICAL AND GRAPHIC SUMMARY

TABLE V
NUMBER OF TOWN AND COUNTRY COMMUNITIES AND THEIR DISTRIBUTION BY TYPES—BY REGIONS
(Estimated for entire United States from 1920 Census, supplemented by other data)

Region	Total No. of Town and Country Communities	Town Communities Number	% of Total	Village Communities Number	% of Total	Hamlet Communities Number	% of Total	Open Country Communities Number	% of Total
Colonial	10,428	365	3.5	3,001	28.8	5,296	50.8	1,766	16.9
South	30,805	264	.8	3,713	12.1	12,627	41.0	14,201	46.1
Middle West	12,067	293	2.4	4,345	36.0	6,488	53.7	941	7.9
South West	8,485	157	1.9	2,296	27.0	4,938	58.2	1,094	12.9
North West	3,719	49	1.3	1,242	33.4	1,610	43.3	818	22.0
Prairie	2,133	52	2.4	767	36.0	956	44.8	358	16.8
Range	2,454	57	2.3	722	29.4	1,244	50.7	431	17.6
Pacific	3,139	85	2.7	895	28.5	1,263	40.2	896	28.6
Total	73,230	1,322	1.8	16,981	23.2	34,422	47.0	20,505	28.0

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TABLE VI
AVERAGE POPULATION OF (TOWN, VILLAGE, HAMLET, OPEN COUNTRY) COMMUNITIES—BY REGIONS
(Estimated for entire United States from 1920 Census, supplemented by other data)

Region	Town Community			Village Community			Hamlet Community			Open Country Community		
	Town	Community	Total	Village	Country	Total	Hamlet	Country	Total	Hamlet	Country	Total
Colonial	3,475	269	3,744	768	309	1,077	194	227	421	120	295	325
South	3,405	1,087	4,492	683	787	1,470	120	462	557	95	415	446
Middle West	3,731	1,036	4,767	641	789	1,430	84	570	654	1,723	84	125
South West	3,432	788	4,220	660	1,063	1,063	94	662	756	468	94	337
North West	3,505	1,584	5,089	595	468	1,063	115	666	781	666	1,366	110
Prairie	3,503	659	4,162	700	666	1,366	147	348	495	507	1,196	182
Range	3,495	389	3,884	689	996	996	97	437	534	390	390	351
Pacific	3,553	762	4,315	606	620	1,295	121	390	511	4,229	675	391
National Average	3,464	765										

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TABLE VII
DISTRIBUTION OF OPEN COUNTRY POPULATION BY TYPE OF COMMUNITY—BY REGIONS
(Estimated for entire United States)

Region	Total Open Country Population	Open Country Population Resident in			Open Country Communities
		City Communities	Town Communities	Hamlet Communities	
Colonial	3,791,564	989,253	98,048	929,227	1,201,086
South	13,665,016	400,545	286,936	2,920,650	3,723,239
Middle West	6,547,804	700,488	303,674	2,429,389	2,996,628
South West	5,986,645	240,327	123,685	2,441,449	2,812,506
North West	1,914,072	98,739	77,641	581,444	1,066,268
Prairie	1,395,128	76,383	34,266	510,465	636,900
Range	1,062,731	163,444	22,163	366,097	432,585
Pacific	1,430,373	149,040	64,778	349,028	553,031
Total	35,793,333	2,818,219	1,011,191	10,527,749	13,422,243
Per cent. of Total	100	7.8	2.9	29.4	37.5

SOCIAL SURVEY IN TOWN AND COUNTRY AREAS

TABLE VIII
NUMBER AND DISTRIBUTION OF FARM POPULATION BY REGIONS AND STATES
(1920 United States Census)

Region and State	Number	FARM POPULATION			In Rural Territory Per Cent. of Rural Population				
		Total or More	25,000 to 25,000	In Cities of 10,000 to 10,000	2,500 to 10,000	Number			
<i>Colonial</i>									
Connecticut	93,302	6.8	1,043	846	1,116	90,297	20.3		
Maine	197,601	25.7	1,301	3,348	3,926	189,026	40.4		
Massachusetts	118,554	3.1	4,229	8,269	44,324	61,732	30.5		
New Hampshire	76,021	17.2	818	2,751	7,845	64,607	39.6		
New Jersey	143,708	4.6	1,890	703	4,268	136,847	20.1		
New York	800,747	7.7	7,261	1,643	8,889	782,954	43.6		
Pennsylvania	948,334	10.9	3,653	616	2,705	941,360	30.2		
Rhode Island	1,5136	2.5	741	1,332	7,748	5,315	34.9		
Vermont	125,263	35.5	244	574	124,445	51.3			
					81,395		33.6		
						2,396,583			
<i>Southern</i>									
Alabama	1,335,885	56.9	279	118	975	1,334,513	72.6		
Delaware	51,212	23.0	34	27	51,151	50.0			
Florida	281,893	29.1	105	34	2,384	279,370	45.6		
Georgia	1,685,213	58.2	96	230	4,276	1,680,611	77.5		
Kentucky	1,304,862	54.0	100	141	2,279	1,302,342	73.0		
Louisiana	786,050	43.7	269	32	1,294	784,455	67.0		
Maryland	279,225	19.3	1,391	14	164	277,656	47.9		
Mississippi	1,270,482	71.0			72	1,638	1,268,772	81.8	
North Carolina	1,501,227	58.7			207	837	1,499,946	72.5	
South Carolina	1,074,693	63.8			70	103	2,041	1,072,479	77.2
Tennessee	1,271,708	54.4				183	1,523	1,269,179	73.5

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Virginia	1,064,417	46.1	190	48	4,266	1,059,913
West Virginia	477,924	32.7	286	75	932	476,631
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	12,384,791	51.1	3,850	1,287	<hr/>	12,357,018
					22,636	69.7
<i>Middle West</i>						
Illinois	1,098,262	16.9	2,695	891	3,940	1,000,736
Indiana	907,295	31.0	2,511	260	1,704	902,820
Iowa	984,799	41.0	2,973	859	3,273	977,694
Michigan	848,710	23.1	1,237	408	2,566	844,499
Ohio	1,139,329	19.8	2,490	750	2,177	1,133,912
Wisconsin	920,037	35.0	346	785	3,669	915,237
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	5,898,432	24.7	12,252	3,953	17,329	5,864,898
						58.9
<i>South West</i>						
Arkansas	1,147,049	65.5	433	472	1,662	1,144,482
Missouri	1,211,346	35.6	1,641	306	1,500	1,207,899
Oklahoma	1,017,327	50.2	173	170	1,085	1,015,899
Texas	2,277,773	48.8	933	1,288	9,818	2,265,734
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	5,633,495	47.7	3,180	2,236	14,065	5,634,014
						71.2
<i>North West</i>						
Minnesota	897,181	37.6	901	518	2,302	893,460
Montana	225,667	41.1	7	45	226	225,389
North Dakota	394,500	61.0	56.9	759	119	393,622
South Dakota	362,221	<hr/>	<hr/>	5	295	361,886
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	1,879,569	44.5	943	1,327	2,942	1,874,357
						66.8
<i>Prairie</i>						
Kansas	737,377	41.7	76	739	678	735,884
Nebraska	584,172	45.1	131	113	1,190	582,738
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	1,321,549	43.1	<hr/>	207	852	1,318,622
					1,868	64.6

SOCIAL SURVEY IN TOWN AND COUNTRY AREAS

TABLE VIII (*Continued*)
 NUMBER AND DISTRIBUTION OF FARM POPULATION BY REGIONS AND STATES
 (1920 United States Census)

		FARM POPULATION				In Rural Territory Per cent of Rural Population	
		Total	Per cent of Entire Population	In Cities of 10,000 to 25,000	2,500 to 10,000	Number	
Region and State Range	Number						
Arizona	90,560	27.1	42	1	350	90,167	41.6
Colorado	266,073	28.3	203	86	503	265,281	54.5
Idaho	200,902	46.5		497	3,842	196,563	62.8
Nevada	16,164	20.9		6	55	16,103	25.9
New Mexico	161,446	44.8		9	895	160,542	54.3
Utah	140,249	31.2	619	507	7,251	131,872	56.4
Wyoming	67,306	34.6		31	199	67,076	48.9
	<hr/> 942,700	<hr/> 33.8	<hr/> 864	<hr/> 1,137	<hr/> 13,095	<hr/> 927,604	<hr/> 53.2
Pacific							
California	516,770	15.1	8,024	5,276	9,957	493,513	45.1
Oregon	214,021	27.3	200	63	1,749	212,009	54.0
Washington	283,382	20.9	1,605	248	1,507	280,022	46.1
	<hr/> 1,014,173	<hr/> 18.2	<hr/> 9,829	<hr/> 5,587	<hr/> 13,213	<hr/> 985,544	<hr/> 47.0
District of Columbia	894	2		894			
Grand Totals	<hr/> 31,614,269	<hr/> 29.9	<hr/> 52,955	<hr/> 36,131	<hr/> 166,543	<hr/> 31,358,640	<hr/> 61.0

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NUMBER AND POPULATION OF COMMUNITIES THAT HAVE NO PROTESTANT CHURCHES AND OF COMMUNITIES THAT HAVE NO RESIDENT PASTORS—BY REGIONS

(Estimated for entire United States)

Region	Total Town and Country Area			Communities Which Have No Protestant Churches			Communities Which Have Churches But No Resident Ministers		
	No.	Comm.	Population	No.	Comm.	Population	Per Cent. of Total	No. of Town and Country	No. of Town and Country
Colonial	10,428	8,392,733	782	7.5	227,562	2.7	3,608	34.6	1,605,560
South	30,805	18,619,934	4,467	14.5	1,956,546	10.5	16,881	54.8	13,741,134
Middle West	12,067	10,987,466	736	6.1	383,984	3.5	3,801	31.5	2,482,053
South West	8,485	8,457,050	1,145	13.5	1,078,590	12.7	4,064	47.9	4,677,664
North West	3,719	2,977,459	1,101	29.6	262,038	8.8	911	24.5	596,705
Prairie	2,133	2,224,490	278	13.0	161,040	7.2	558	26.1	318,618
Range	2,454	1,943,470	1,276	52.0	606,100	31.2	442	18.0	386,866
Pacific	3,139	2,397,368	1,165	37.1	404,255	16.9	543	17.3	272,586
Total	73,230	55,999,970	<u>10,950</u>	<u>14.9</u>	<u>5,080,115</u>	<u>9.1</u>	<u>30,808</u>	<u>42.1</u>	<u>24,081,186</u>
									43.0

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to the regional classification of the survey. These figures cannot be related to the preceding tables as completely as would be desirable. The census reports the farm population "in rural territory" (*i.e.*, according to the census definition, outside of incorporated places of 2,500 or over) and also in cities of various specified size-groups. The classification used combines all places of from 2,500 to 10,000. It is thus impossible to determine accurately the farm population in the total town and country area as defined in this survey.

Table IX enters a field rather different from that covered by the foregoing tables, but is introduced here because it is the only other table that presents an estimate for the entire United States. In the 179 counties there were many communities that had no Protestant churches; many others had churches but no resident ministers. These represent peculiarly the problem of church extension in its geographical terms. For most of the town and country area, the church problem must be expressed in terms of efficiency of organization and operation. It is qualitative rather than quantitative (except where the very super-abundance of religious organizations is the chief limiting factor). But that must not obscure the fact that a very large population lacks even the rudiments of religious organization. These communities without churches are, of course, most numerous in the less completely settled sections, although no region is wholly without them. The surveyed counties within each region were used as the basis of an estimate for that region. Table IX summarizes the results. A fuller explanation will be found in Chapter II of the summary volume.

C. The General Status of the Church Enterprise¹

The tables that follow deal only with the institutional aspects of religion—the number of churches and ministers, the membership, absolutely and relative to population, and certain objective factors that affect the distribution of churches and the degree of their evangelistic success.

First—the number of churches and ministers within the 179 surveyed counties, by regions.

The ratio of churches and ministers to population is obviously effected by the density of population. In general, the relative number of churches and ministers increases as the density of population

¹ A full discussion of this topic will be found in Chapter III of the summary volume, under the same title.

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TABLE X

NUMBER OF (TOWN, VILLAGE, COUNTRY) CHURCHES AND OF
MINISTERS—BY REGIONS

179 Counties

<i>Region</i>	<i>Town</i>	<i>Number of Churches</i>	<i>Total</i>	<i>Number of Ministers</i>
		<i>Village</i>	<i>Country</i>	
Colonial	47	386	427	860
South	135	519	1,761	2,415
South West	15	92	183	290
North West	25	65	70	160
Middle West	102	398	646	1,146
Prairie	None incl.	25	31	56
Range	42	133	100	275
Pacific	69	170	111	350
All Regions Combined	435	1,788	3,329	5,552
				3,353

TABLE XI

THE AVERAGE FREQUENCY OF CHURCHES AND MINISTERS
ACCORDING TO DENSITY OF POPULATION

179 Counties

<i>Counties Having a Population Density Per Square Mile of</i>	<i>In Counties Having Specified Population Density, Average Number of Persons in Population Per Church</i>	<i>Average Number of Ministers</i>	<i>Average Number of Churches Per Minister</i>
10 or less	701	1,115	1.4
11-20	460	710	1.5
21-30	422	707	1.67
31-40	414	693	1.68
Over 40	405	701	1.73

TABLE XII

RELATIVE FREQUENCY OF CHURCHES AND MINISTERS—
BY REGIONS

179 Counties

<i>Region</i>	<i>Average Number of Persons Per Church</i>	<i>Average Number of Persons Per Minister</i>	<i>Average Number of Churches Per Minister</i>
Colonial	434	730	1.7
South	317	564	1.8
South West	592	1,016	1.7
North West	568	850	1.5
Middle West	447	718	1.6
Prairie	384	500	1.3
Range	1,209	1,697	1.4
Pacific	872	1,193	1.4
All Regions Combined ..	463	767	1.7

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increases. There is no uniform tendency in this direction, however, many counties being exceptions to this rule.

Many factors effect the relative frequency of churches and ministers. Among them may be mentioned, the membership strength of non-evangelical communions, the degree of denominational rivalry between Protestant communions, the frequency and size of communities, density of population, especially where it approaches the extreme in either direction, and factors inherent in the religious tra-

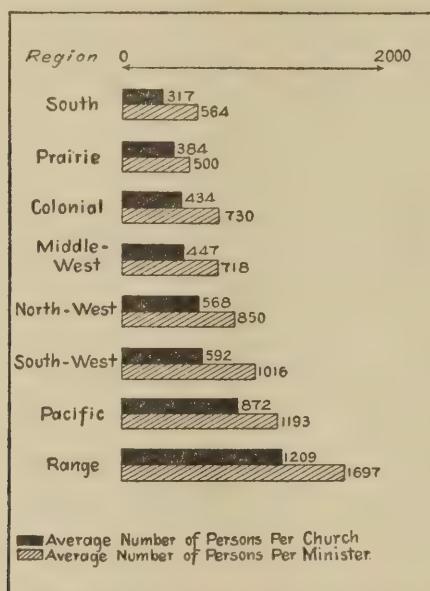


CHART III
RELATIVE FREQUENCY OF CHURCHES AND
MINISTERS—179 COUNTIES

Showing the Average Number of Persons in
Town and Country Population Per Protestant
Church and Minister by Regions.

ditions. These, and doubtless other factors, are reflected in the regional averages given in Table XII. It will be noted that only two regions approach the usually accepted norm of one church for every 1,000 people.

The proportion of ministers to churches increases as the proportion of churches to people decreases. The proportion of ministers to people decreases as the proportion of churches to people decreases, but at a much slower rate. As the proportion of churches

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to people decreases the number of churches and the number of ministers approach nearer equality.

In the entire number of counties studied virtually one-sixth of all the churches have full-time resident pastors. There is wide variation between regions, and between counties within regions, in the adequacy of the pastoral service provided. The regional con-

TABLE XIII
RELATIVE FREQUENCY OF CHURCHES AND MINISTERS

179 Counties

Number of Counties	<i>Counties in Which the Average Number of Persons Per Church Is</i>			
	250 or less	251-500	501-750	Over 750
	27	81	26	45
Average population per church	201	357	571	1,215
Index number	1	1.78	2.85	6.07
Average population per minister	366	618	863	1,617
Index number	1	1.69	2.36	4.42
Average number of churches per minister	1.8	1.7	1.5	1.3

TABLE XIV

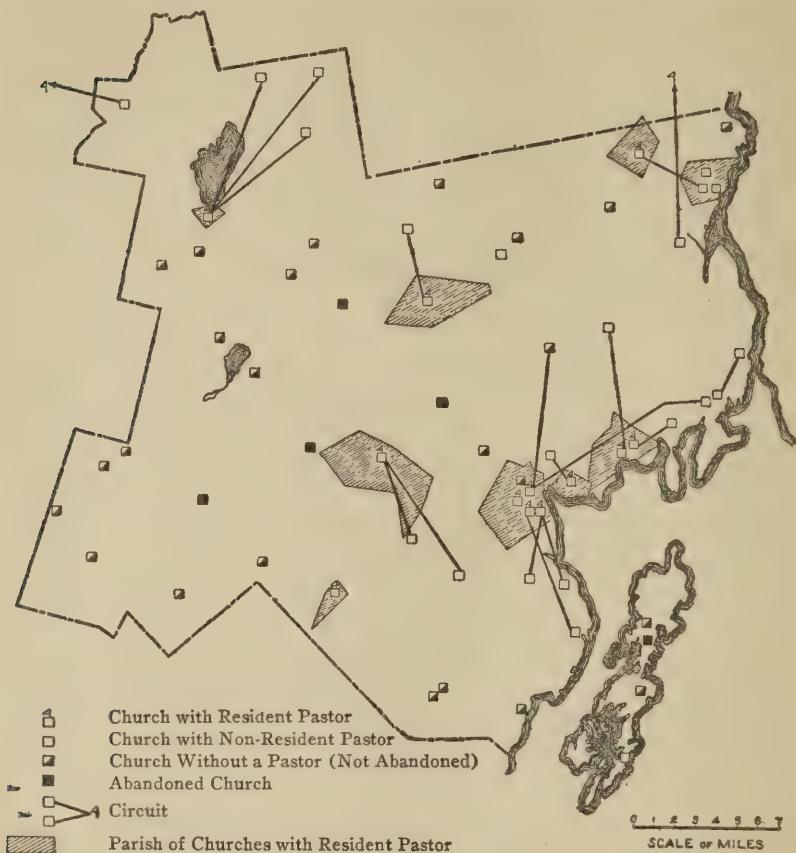
PERCENTAGE DISTRIBUTION OF ALL CHURCHES ACCORDING TO RESIDENCE OF PASTORS—BY REGIONS

179 Counties

Region	<i>Percentage of Churches Having</i>			
	<i>Full-time Resident Pastor</i>	<i>Part-time Resident Pastor</i>	<i>Non-Resident Pastor</i>	<i>No Pastor</i>
Colonial	25.0	23.1	36.4	15.5
South	6.1	15.1	69.7	9.1
South West	10.7	16.2	54.1	19.0
North West	24.4	26.9	40.0	8.7
Middle West	19.2	21.5	46.6	12.7
Prairie	35.7	14.3	39.3	10.7
Range	37.1	25.5	24.0	13.4
Pacific	41.7	21.1	22.9	14.3
All Regions Combined.	16.5	19.0	52.6	11.9

tracts are shown in Table XIV. There is no single explanation for these variations. Economic factors are undoubtedly important. So are the prevailing standards of church work. The relative frequency of churches (itself effected by many different factors) is clearly influential. Other things being equal, the fewer churches there are in proportion to population, the larger the percentage of them that have resident pastors; also, the larger the percentage of

SOCIAL SURVEY IN TOWN AND COUNTRY AREAS

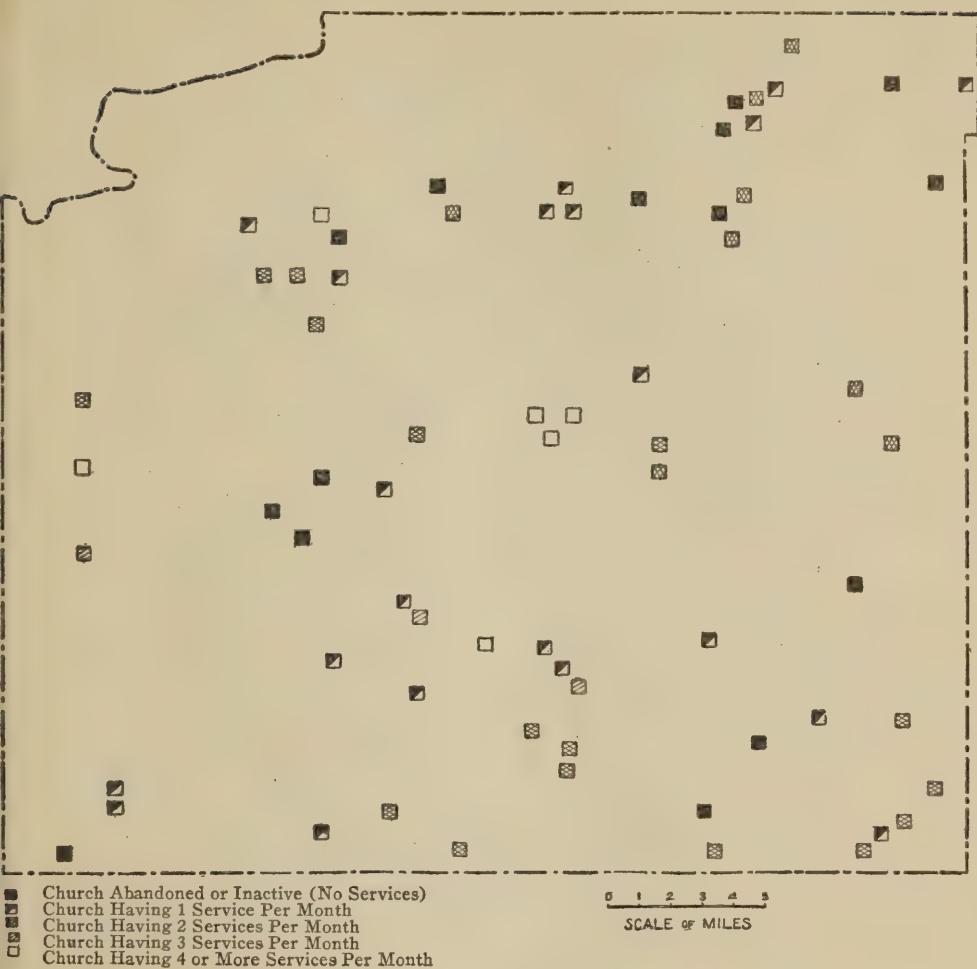


A COLONIAL COUNTY

A STUDY IN PASTORAL RESIDENCE

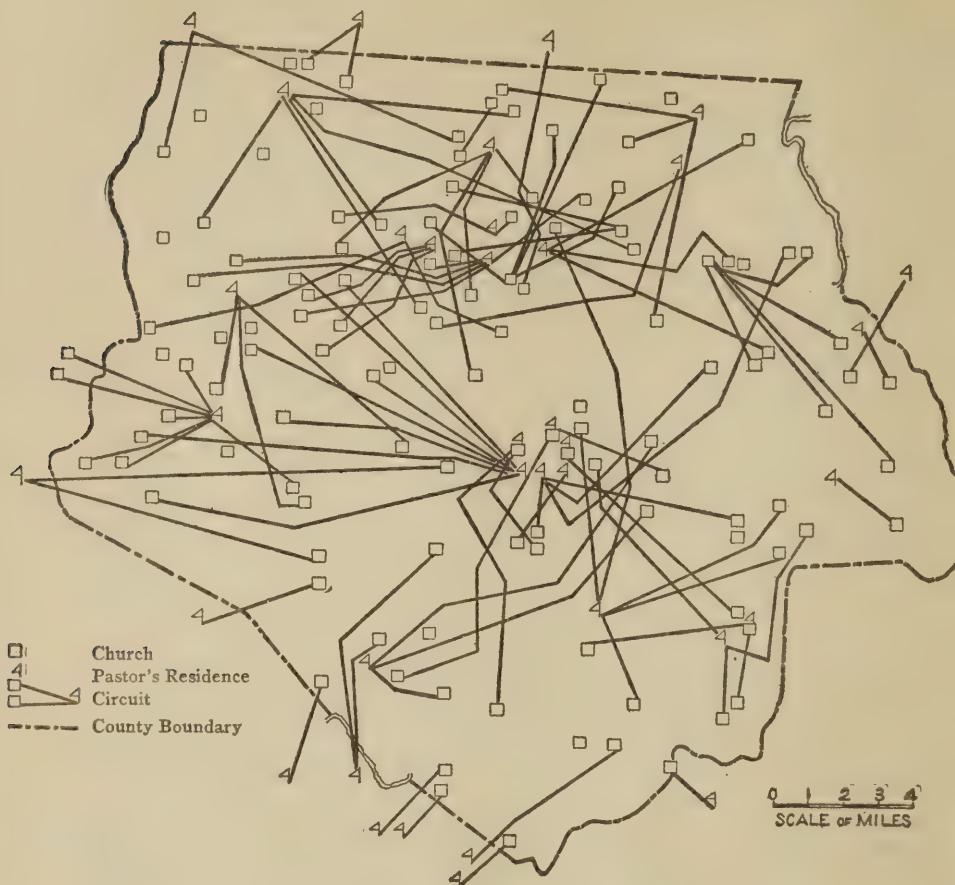
Out of 37 Country Churches, 21 Have No Pastors. Only 30 Per Cent. of the Population are in Parishes Having Resident Pastors.

A STATISTICAL AND GRAPHIC SUMMARY



A COUNTY IN THE SOUTHWEST SHOWING LOCATION OF CHURCHES AND FREQUENCY OF THEIR PUBLIC SERVICE

SOCIAL SURVEY IN TOWN AND COUNTRY AREAS



A COUNTY IN THE SOUTH SHOWING LACK OF RESIDENT PASTORS FOR
COUNTRY CHURCHES

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those without any minister. That is to say, an area that is over-churched is apt to be, relatively, under-ministered; an under-churched area is apt to have the compensating advantage of churches more adequately supplied with ministers.

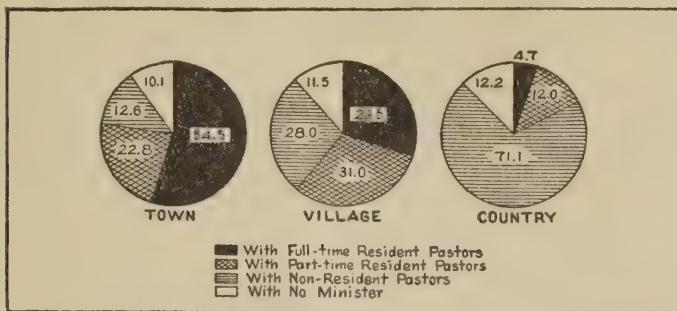


CHART IV

TOWN, VILLAGE AND COUNTRY CHURCHES CONTRASTED AS TO PAS-TORAL SERVICE—179 COUNTIES

Showing Per Cent. of All Churches with Specified Kind of Pastoral Service.

Tables XV and XVI illustrate a characteristic of all regions and of virtually all counties. In the matter of resident pastors, the town churches make a much better record than the village churches

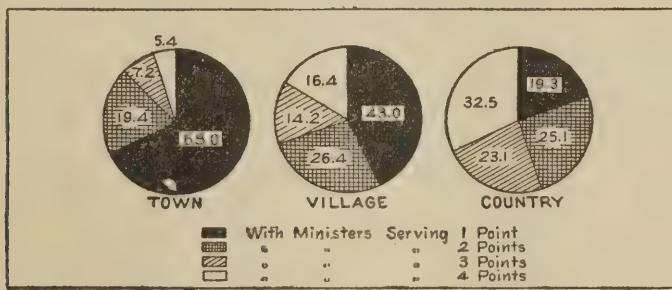


CHART V

THE CIRCUIT SYSTEM IN TOWN, VILLAGE AND COUNTRY CHURCHES —179 COUNTIES

Showing Per Cent. of All Churches Receiving Specified Proportion of Minister's Time.

and both make a much better record than the country churches. Such differences are inherent in the church systems that have grown up in all parts of the country. The Colonial region, which from the beginning has had the tradition of the resident pastor, makes

SOCIAL SURVEY IN TOWN AND COUNTRY AREAS

TABLE XV

PERCENTAGE OF (TOWN, VILLAGE, COUNTRY) CHURCHES
HAVING FULL-TIME RESIDENT PASTORS—BY REGIONS

179 Counties

Region	Percentage of Churches Having Full-time Resident Pastors			Total
	Town	Village	Country	
Colonial	55.3	38.1	9.8	25.
South	45.9	15.	0.4	6.1
South West	46.7	21.8	2.2	10.7
North West	56.	29.2	8.6	24.4
Middle West	52.9	27.9	8.5	19.2
Prairie	None included	56.	19.4	35.7
Range	64.3	44.3	16.	37.1
Pacific	68.1	46.5	18.1	41.7
All Regions Combined.	54.5	29.5	4.7	16.5

TABLE XVI

PERCENTAGE DISTRIBUTION OF (TOWN, VILLAGE, COUNTRY)
CHURCHES ACCORDING TO RESIDENCE OF PASTORS

179 Counties

	Percentage of Churches Having			
	Full-time Resident Pastor	Part-time Resident Pastor	Non-resident Pastor	No Pastor
Town Churches	54.5	22.8	12.6	10.1
Village Churches	29.5	31.0	28.0	11.5
Country Churches	4.7	12.0	71.1	12.2
Town, Village and Country Churches Combined	16.5	19.0	52.6	11.9

TABLE XVII

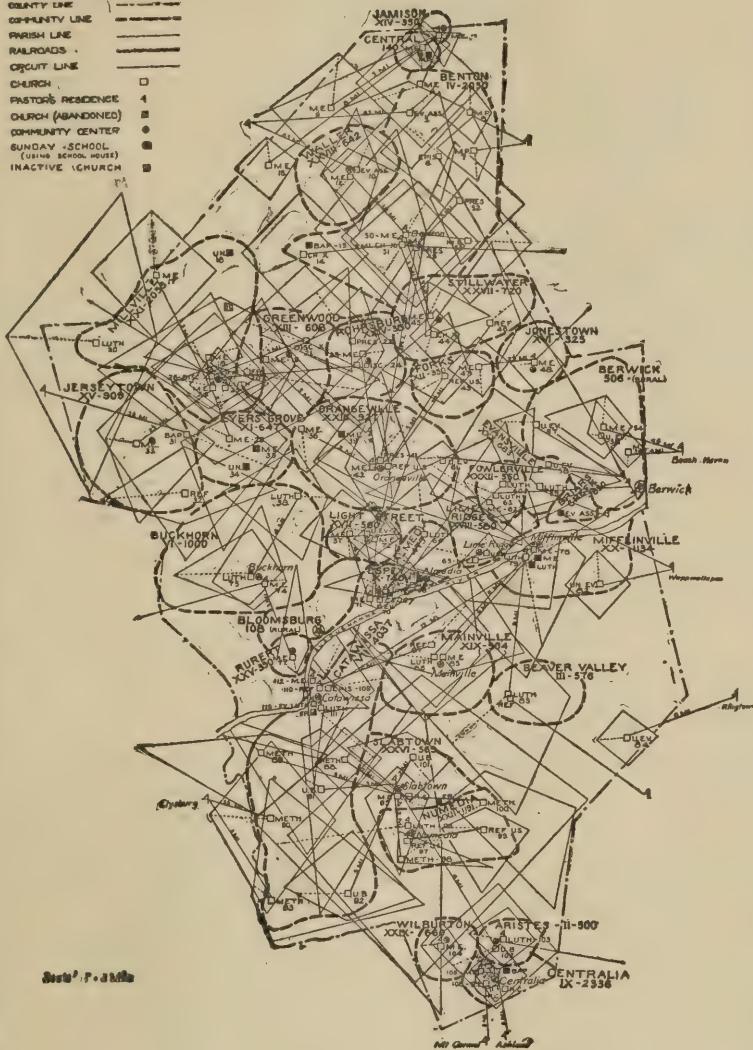
PERCENTAGE DISTRIBUTION OF (TOWN, VILLAGE, COUNTRY)
CHURCHES ACCORDING TO PROPORTION OF MINISTER'S
TIME RECEIVED

179 Counties

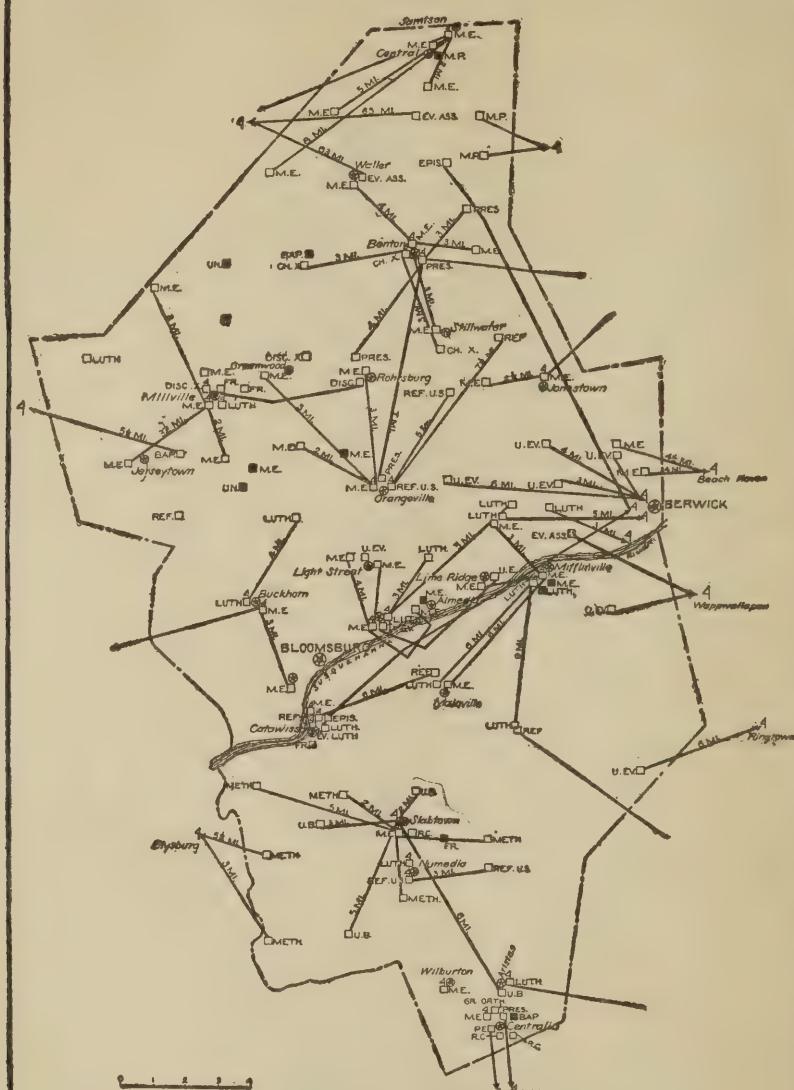
	Percentage of Churches Whose Ministers Each Serve			
	1 Church Only	2 Churches	3 Churches	4 or more Churches
Town Churches	68.0	19.4	7.2	5.4
Villages Churches	43.0	26.4	14.2	16.4
Country Churches	19.3	25.1	23.1	32.5
Town, Village and Country Churches Combined	31.0	25.0	18.9	25.1

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COUNTY LINE
 COMMUNITY LINE
 PARISH LINE
 RAILROADS
 CIRCUIT LINE
 CHURCH
 PASTOR'S RESIDENCE 4
 CHURCH (ABANDONED)
 COMMUNITY CENTER
 SUNDAY SCHOOL
 (USING SCHOOL HOUSE)
 INACTIVE (CHURCH)



A COLONIAL COUNTY CHURCH AND COMMUNITY MAP



KEY AND SYMBOLS

— County Boundary	• Homestead	□ Circuit
- - - Community Boundary	◎ Villages	▲ Pastor's Residence without Church-White
- - - Neighborhood Boundary	● Town - over 5,000	■ Pastor's Residence without Church-Colored
— Parish Boundary	□ Church - White	■ Abandoned Residence, □ Inactive Church
- - - Parish & Church Connecting Line	◎ Church - Colored	■ Sunday School without Church - White
— Circuit of Pastor	□ Church - White, with Pastor's Residence	■ Sunday School without Church - Colored
	□ Church - Colored, with Pastor's Residence	■ Church using School Bldg.

A COLONIAL COUNTY SHOWING CIRCUITS

A STATISTICAL AND GRAPHIC SUMMARY

hardly a better record than the Middle West, where agriculture is considerably more prosperous. In the South, the full-time resident pastor is virtually unknown in the country. Only the three western regions materially better the national average.

TABLE XVIII

PROPORTION OF MINISTERS WHO ALSO HAVE ANOTHER OCCUPATION THAN THE MINISTRY—BY REGIONS

179 Counties

<i>Region</i>	
Colonial	20.7
South	48.1
South West	49.1
North West	7.5
Middle West	23.0
Prairie	27.9
Range	15.8
Pacific	17.6
All Regions Combined	32.9

TABLE XIX

PERCENTAGE DISTRIBUTION OF MINISTERS, WITH AND WITHOUT ANOTHER OCCUPATION, ACCORDING TO THE NUMBER OF CHURCHES SERVED

179 Counties

	<i>Percentage of Ministers Who Each Serve</i>			
	<i>One Church Only</i>	<i>Two Churches</i>	<i>Three Churches</i>	<i>Four or more Churches</i>
Ministers Giving Full-time to Ministry	44.9	26.0	14.4	14.7
Ministers Who Also Have Another Occupation	45.3	24.4	15.9	14.4

Table XVII shows another aspect of the question of pastoral supply, namely, the prevailing tendency to combine churches on circuits, giving to each church only a fraction of the minister's time. Here again the town church has the advantage over the village church and both over the country church. It will be noticed that the percentage of country churches that have full-time resident pastors is much less than the percentage of those whose pastors serve one church only. The difference is occasioned by the large proportion of ministers, particularly in the South and South West, who are supported wholly or in part by some occupation other than the ministry. Not all of these "toiler preachers" serve country churches; but a majority of them do. Nearly half of such ministers

SOCIAL SURVEY IN TOWN AND COUNTRY AREAS

serve but a single church each; but, of course, they cannot give their full time to the churches they serve and they are usually non-resident. Table XVIII shows the proportion of all ministers for each region who come within this class. Table XIX contrasts them with the men giving their full time to the ministry as to the number of churches served by each.

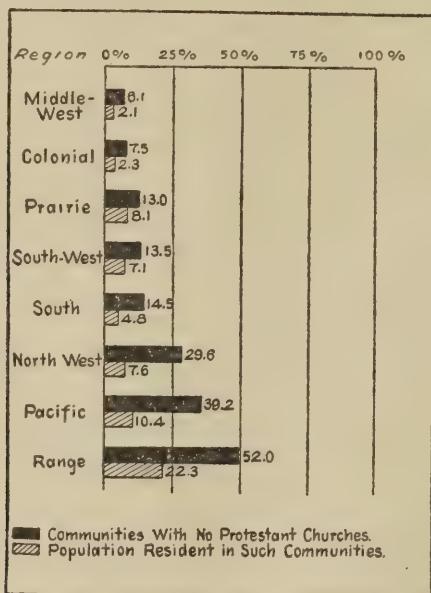


CHART VI

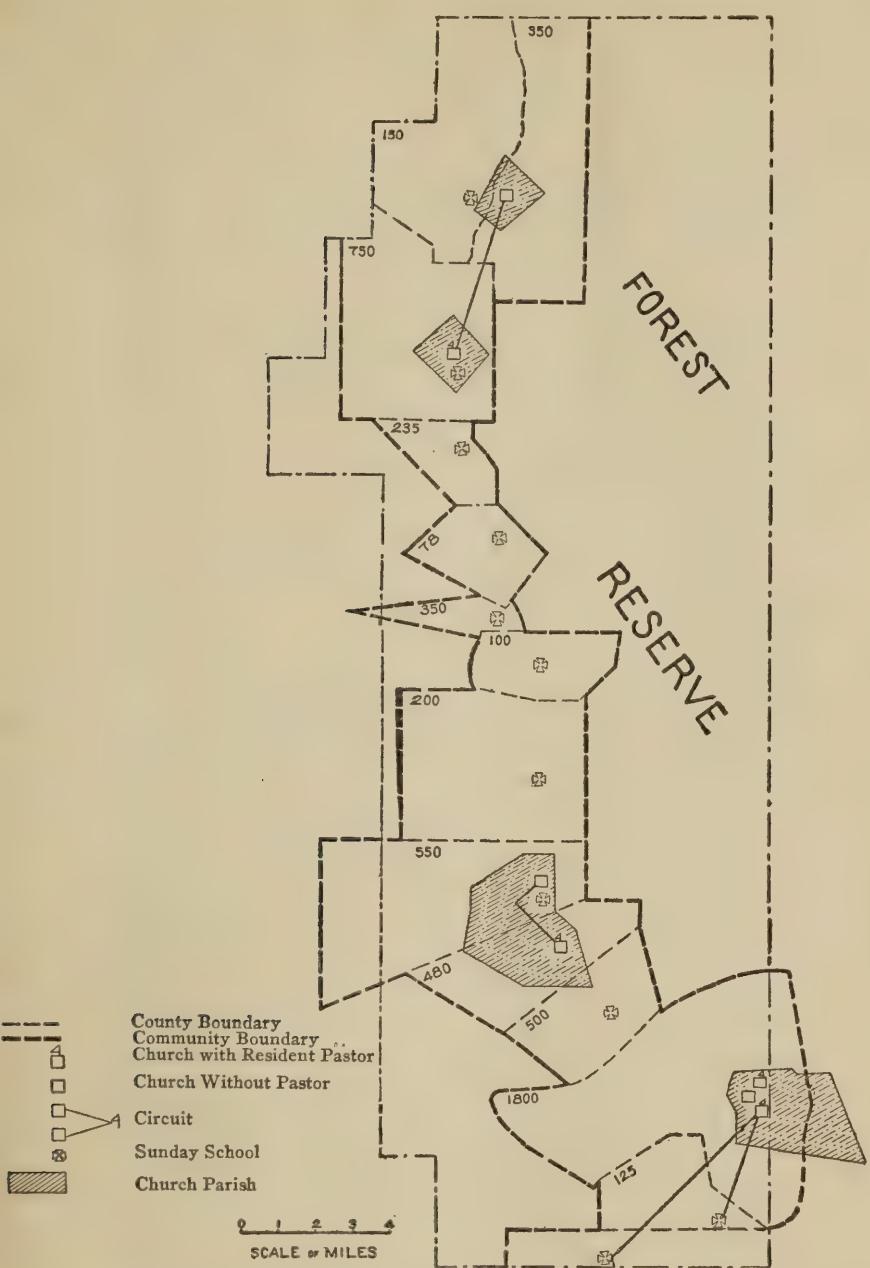
THE UNFINISHED TASK OF CHURCH EXTENSION—179 COUNTIES

Showing the Per Cent. of Town and Coun-
try Communities and Population by Regions
Which Do Not Have Protestant Churches.

Table XX shows the extent to which these 179 counties have a problem of church extension. The figures here given formed the basis of the estimate made for the whole country as given in Table IX. Table XXI shows that in nearly two-thirds of the counties no country church has a full-time resident pastor, while in nearly one-fourth of the counties no country church has even a part-time resident pastor.

The chief reason why the town church has such a decisive advantage in the matter of pastoral supply, and why the country church lags so far behind both town and village church in this

A STATISTICAL AND GRAPHIC SUMMARY



A COUNTY IN THE PACIFIC REGION ILLUSTRATING DIFFICULTY OF REACHING A SCATTERED POPULATION

SOCIAL SURVEY IN TOWN AND COUNTRY AREAS

TABLE XX
NUMBER OF COMMUNITIES WITHOUT PROTESTANT CHURCHES AND NUMBER WITHOUT RESIDENT
MINISTERS—BY REGIONS

<i>Region</i>	<i>Communities Without Protestant Churches</i>			<i>Communities with Protestant Churches but with no Resident Ministers</i>			<i>Per Cent. of Total Town and Country Population Included</i>	<i>Per Cent. of Total Town and Country Population Included</i>
	<i>Number of all Town and Country Communities</i>	<i>Number</i>	<i>Communities of all Communities</i>	<i>Number</i>	<i>Communities of all Communities</i>	<i>Number</i>		
Colonial	399	30	7.5	2.3	138	34.6	16.4	
South	846	123	14.5	4.8	464	54.8	33.9	
South West	96	13	13.5	7.1	46	47.9	30.8	
North West	98	29	29.6	7.6	24	24.5	17.3	
Middle West	346	21	6.1	2.1	109	31.8	13.9	
Prairie	23	3	13.0	8.1	6	26.1	16.0	
Range	300	156	52.0	22.3	54	18.0	14.2	
Pacific	248	92	37.2	10.4	43	17.4	7.1	
All Regions Combined .	2,356	467	19.9	7.7	884	37.0	29.2	

Note: Communities without churches are in 99 different counties. Communities with churches but without resident pastors are in 159 different counties.

There are thus only 78 counties, or 45 per cent., in which every community has a Protestant Church and only 20 counties, or 11 per cent., in which every community has a resident minister. There are only 4 counties, containing but 10 communities, in which every community has a full-time resident minister.

A STATISTICAL AND GRAPHIC SUMMARY

matter, is shown in Table XXII. The town church has an average membership more than 80 per cent. greater than that of the village church, and nearly treble that of the country church. Moreover the country church is at a disadvantage in having a smaller proportion of its total membership active in attending and supporting the church. The variations in average membership by regions are considerable, but in general the town, village and country churches hold about the same relative positions throughout the country.

TABLE XXI

NUMBER OF COUNTIES IN WHICH NO COUNTRY CHURCH HAS A RESIDENT MINISTER—BY REGIONS

162 Counties

Region	Number of Counties in which no Country Church has	
	A Full-time Resident Pastor	A Resident Pastor, either Full-time or Part-time
Colonial	4	.
South	64	24
South West	8	4
North West	6	3
Middle West	9	2
Prairie .....	.	.
Range	8	3
Pacific	6	2
All Regions Combined	105	38
Per cent. of total number of Counties..	64.8 per cent.	23.6 per cent.

NOTE: In the other 17 counties of the 179 there are no Country Churches.

SOCIAL SURVEY IN TOWN AND COUNTRY AREAS

TABLE XXII
AVERAGE MEMBERSHIP—TOTAL AND ACTIVE—OF (TOWN, VILLAGE AND COUNTRY) CHURCHES—BY
REGIONS
179 Counties

Region	Average Membership per Church			Per Cent. of Total Membership		
	Town Total	Town Active	Village Total	Village Active	Country Total	Country Active
Colonial	146	106	114	87	67	50
South	186	135	106	75	77	49
South West	184	126	105	77	50	33
North West	185	141	85	60	70	54
Middle West	244	199	124	97	77	61
Prairie	None included	127	100	55	47	47
Range	166	119	84	68	37	30
Pacific	189	151	84	63	48	37
All Regions Combined	194	148	108	81	72	49
					76.5	74.8
					72.7	63.3
					68.6	65.1
					76.4	71.
					81.8	77.7
					78.9	78.7
					81.4	85.3
					80.3	81.1
					75.	77.7
					75.	77.5
						72.5

A STATISTICAL AND GRAPHIC SUMMARY

There is no more accurate measure of the relative strength of the church in particular regions or counties or communities than the proportion of the total population enrolled in the church membership. Obviously such proportions do not provide a measure either of the quality of the religious experience or of the degree of interest and activity of the church membership. But they do show the relative strength of the church establishment in the areas under consideration as a whole. Tables XXIII to XXVIII illustrate different phases of this question.

Table XXIII is based on the U. S. Religious census of 1916. This material is not strictly comparable with the material drawn from the surveys. It is dated four years earlier. The census includes both population and church membership for cities within these counties, which were excluded from the survey. Probably, church for church, the census estimates of membership would run higher and would be less accurate. Certainly they have been subjected to less careful scrutiny on the ground and to less pruning. The table is included here primarily because it gives figures for other than White Protestant churches, which the survey lacks.

TABLE XXIII

PERCENTAGE DISTRIBUTION OF TOTAL CHURCH MEMBERSHIP AMONG PROTESTANT (WHITE), ROMAN CATHOLIC AND ALL OTHER DENOMINATIONS—BY REGIONS

179 Counties

Percentage of Total Church Membership¹ Belonging to

	Protestant Churches (White)	Roman Catholic Church	All Others (including Colored Protestant)
Colonial	46.1	47.6	6.3
South	81.5	5.0	13.5 ²
South West	50.6	43.4	6.0
North West	66.6	30.9	2.5
Middle West	59.5..	33.8	6.7
Prairie	76.2	20.9	2.9
Range	20.8	19.2	60.0 ³
Pacific	49.2	46.8	4.0
All Regions Com- bined	59.0	28.7	12.3

¹ Data from 1916 U. S. Religious Census. Includes population and church membership for cities within these counties as well as for town and country area.

² Chiefly Colored Protestants.

³ Chiefly Latter Day Saints.

Table XXIV gives by regions the percentage of the town, village, country and total population that is included in the church mem-

SOCIAL SURVEY IN TOWN AND COUNTRY AREAS

bership. The differences between town, village and country are generally not very wide. The town percentage exceeds the village percentage only in the North West, Range and Pacific regions. It materially exceeds the country percentage except in the South, where they are about equal, and in the Colonial region. The village percentage exceeds the country percentage in all regions. The poorer showing of the country, particularly in the west, is largely owing to the fact that the communities that have no churches are almost entirely country communities. The older and more evenly settled parts of the country, the Colonial, South, Middle West and Prairie regions, are, by a wide margin, the best evangelized.

No region in the United States is evenly evangelized. Adjoining counties or adjoining communities frequently show very different proportions of their population in the church membership. Table XXV illustrates this, taking the county as the unit. For each region the counties are distributed among six groups showing various degrees of evangelization. This shows that more than a tenth of the counties average less than one church member for every twenty people. Only three regions have no counties in this group. At the other extreme, about an eighth of the counties have more than eight church members for every twenty people. All of these counties but one are in the South. The South makes the best record as a whole of any region; but it has a substantial number of counties in four of the six groups and several in a fifth group.

Table XXVI shows similar variations, taking the county as the unit, for town, village and country population. The counties are distributed among eight groups showing various degrees of evangelization for each type of population. The weakness of the church in reaching the entire country population is strikingly illustrated. In over a fifth of the counties less than 5 per cent. of the country population are church members; and in nearly a fifth more less than 10 per cent. are members. In less than 2 per cent. of the counties does the membership exceed 40 per cent. of the country population. A better record is made with the village population, and a still better record with the town population.

Table XXVII presents an analysis of these same contrasts, community by community, for twenty-five counties. In this table four types of communities are separately treated—town, village, hamlet and open country. In the town, village and hamlet communities the population considered includes both the population in the center and the open country population. The village and the hamlet communities show very similar conditions. As compared with the town

A STATISTICAL AND GRAPHIC SUMMARY

communities both have more communities with the lowest degree of evangelization, but also more with the highest degree. All things considered, the strictly open-country communities in these counties make the best record of any.

Table XXVIII shows the relation of the degree of evangelization to the relative frequency of churches and resident ministers. The communities in twenty-five counties are divided into four groups

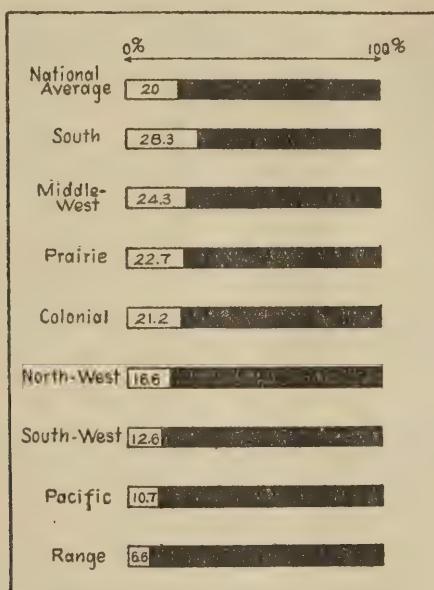


CHART VII

POPULATION AND CHURCH MEMBERSHIP—
179 COUNTIES

Showing the Proportion of the Total Town
and Country Population (White) in the Mem-
bership of the White Protestant Churches.

according to the proportion of the population in the church membership. The average number of persons per church and per resident minister is given for each group. This shows that the greater the number of churches and resident ministers in proportion to population the higher the degree of evangelization.

SOCIAL SURVEY IN TOWN AND COUNTRY AREAS

TABLE XXIV

PERCENTAGE OF (TOWN, VILLAGE, COUNTRY, TOTAL) POPULATION IN PROTESTANT CHURCH MEMBERSHIP
—BY REGIONS

179 Counties

Percentage of Population in Protestant Church Membership

<i>Region</i>	<i>Town Population</i>	<i>Village Population</i>	<i>Country Population</i>	<i>Town, Village and Country Population Combined</i>
Colonial	17.6	23.0	20.4	21.2
South ¹	27.3	31.1	27.4	28.3
Middle West	28.8	31.9	20.6	24.3
South West	17.6	24.3	9.0	12.6
North West	25.2	16.5	14.1	16.6
Prairie	No towns incl.	24.7	21.8	22.7
Range	10.4	6.2	5.5	6.6
Pacific	15.4	12.1	8.9	10.7
All Regions Combined	21.3	22.7	18.7	20.0

¹ White population only considered.

TABLE XXV

DISTRIBUTION OF COUNTIES ACCORDING TO PROPORTION OF POPULATION IN THE PROTESTANT CHURCH MEMBERSHIP—BY REGIONS

179 Counties

Number of Counties in Which the Proportion of the Population in the Protestant Church Membership is Less Than

<i>Region</i>	<i>Number of Counties Included</i>	<i>5 Per Cent.</i>	<i>5-10 Per Cent.</i>	<i>11-20 Per Cent.</i>	<i>21-30 Per Cent.</i>	<i>31-40 Per Cent.</i>	<i>Over 40 Per Cent.</i>
Colonial	20	..	1	11	5	3	..
South	70	..	3	15	11	19	22
South West	15	3	5	4	1	2	..
North West	10	..	4	4	1	1	..
Middle West	23	2	3	3	6	8	1
Prairie	2	1	..	..	1	..	..
Range	26	12	8	6	..	..	..
Pacific	13	1	4	7	1	..	..
All Regions Combined	179	19	28	50	26	33	23
Per Cent. of Total Number of Counties		10.6	15.7	27.9	14.5	18.4	12.9

A STATISTICAL AND GRAPHIC SUMMARY

TABLE XXVI

PERCENTAGE DISTRIBUTION OF COUNTIES ACCORDING TO
THE PROPORTION OF (TOWN, VILLAGE, COUNTRY AND
TOTAL) POPULATION IN THE CHURCH MEMBERSHIP

179 Counties

*Per Cent. of All Counties Having Specified Proportion of
Population in the Church Membership*

Population Resident in	Less than							
	5 Per Cent.	5-10 Per Cent.	11-15 Per Cent.	16-20 Per Cent.	21-30 Per Cent.	31-40 Per Cent.	41-50 Per Cent.	Over 50 Per Cent.
Town ¹	7.5	13.4	14.9	16.4	28.3	6.0	10.5	3.0
Village ²	13.0	9.0	14.1	11.3	30.0	11.9	6.2	4.5
Country	20.1	19.6	16.8	11.7	20.1	10.0	1.1	.6
Town, Village and Country Combined ..	10.6	15.7	14.8	13.1	14.5	18.4	8.4	4.5

¹ Only 67 of the 179 counties contain towns.

² 177 of the 179 counties contain villages.

TABLE XXVII

PERCENTAGE DISTRIBUTION OF COMMUNITIES ACCORDING
TO PROPORTION OF TOTAL POPULATION IN MEMBER-
SHIP OF PROTESTANT CHURCHES—BY REGIONS

Twenty-five Counties

A—ALL COMMUNITIES

Region	<i>Per Cent. of All Communities in Which the Proportion of the Total Population in the Membership of the Protestant Churches is</i>			
	Less than 10 Per Cent.	10-24 Per Cent.	25-34 Per Cent.	35 Per Cent. or More
Colonial	10.3	45.2	21.2	23.3
South	9.3	21.65	21.65	47.4
Middle West	17.3	23.4	21.0	38.3
Range	55.9	35.3	5.9	2.9
Pacific	42.8	34.3	14.3	8.6
All Regions Combined..	20.3	33.2	19.0	27.5

B—TOWN COMMUNITIES

Region	<i>Per Cent. of Town Communities in Which the Proportion of the Total Population in the Membership of the Protestant Churches is</i>			
	Less than 10 Per Cent.	10-24 Per Cent.	25-34 Per Cent.	35 Per Cent. or More
Colonial .....	...	100 ¹	...	...
South .....	...	100 ¹	...	...
Middle West	33.3	16.7	33.3	16.7
Range .....	...	75.	25.	...
Pacific .....	...	50.	50.	...
All Regions Combined..	14.3	50.	28.6	7.1

¹ Only one town included in this region.

SOCIAL SURVEY IN TOWN AND COUNTRY AREAS

TABLE XXVII (*Continued*)

PERCENTAGE DISTRIBUTION OF COMMUNITIES ACCORDING TO PROPORTION OF TOTAL POPULATION IN MEMBER- SHIP OF PROTESTANT CHURCHES—BY REGIONS

Twenty-five Counties

C—VILLAGE COMMUNITIES

Region	<i>Per Cent. of Village Communities in Which the Proportion of the Total Population in the Membership of the Protestant Churches is</i>			
	<i>Less than 10</i>	<i>10-24</i>	<i>25-34</i>	<i>35 Per Cent.</i>
Colonial	5.2	41.4	22.4	31.
South	7.1	21.5	35.7	35.7
Middle West	15.1	27.3	21.2	36.4
Range	66.6	33.4	...	...
Pacific	48.6	31.4	17.1	2.9
All Regions Combined..	21.5	33.5	20.8	24.2

D—HAMLET COMMUNITIES

Region	<i>Per Cent. of Hamlet Communities in Which the Proportion of the Total Population in the Membership of the Protestant Churches is</i>			
	<i>Less than 10</i>	<i>10-24</i>	<i>25-34</i>	<i>35 Per Cent.</i>
Colonial	11.9	52.5	18.7	16.9
South	7.7	26.9	23.1	42.3
Middle West	9.7	25.8	25.8	38.7
Range	62.5	25.	6.25	6.25
Pacific	40.	36.7	6.7	16.6
All Regions Combined..	21.	37.6	17.3	24.1

E—OPEN-COUNTRY COMMUNITIES

Region	<i>Per Cent. of Open-Country Communities in Which the Proportion of the Total Population in the Membership of the Protestant Churches is</i>			
	<i>Less than 10</i>	<i>10-24</i>	<i>25-34</i>	<i>35 Per Cent.</i>
Colonial	17.9	35.7	25.	21.4
South	10.7	17.9	17.9	53.5
Middle West	36.4	9.1	...	54.5
Range	60.	40.	...	...
Pacific	33.33	33.33	33.33	...
All Regions Combined..	18.4	23.3	17.5	40.8

A STATISTICAL AND GRAPHIC SUMMARY

TABLE XXVIII

THE RELATIVE FREQUENCY OF CHURCHES AND OF RESIDENT
MINISTERS IN RELATION TO THE PROPORTION OF
POPULATION IN THE CHURCH MEMBERSHIP—
BY COMMUNITIES

Twenty-five Counties

Proportion of Total Population of the Community in the Church Membership	For Communities Having Specified Proportion of Population in the Church Membership—Average Number of People			Per Resident Minister
	Per Church			
Less than 10 per cent.	616			1,599
10-24 per cent.	479			980
25-34 per cent.	418			885
35 per cent. or over	250			644

Tables XXIX and XXX show that the church, generally speaking, is not as successful in reaching the farm tenant as in reaching

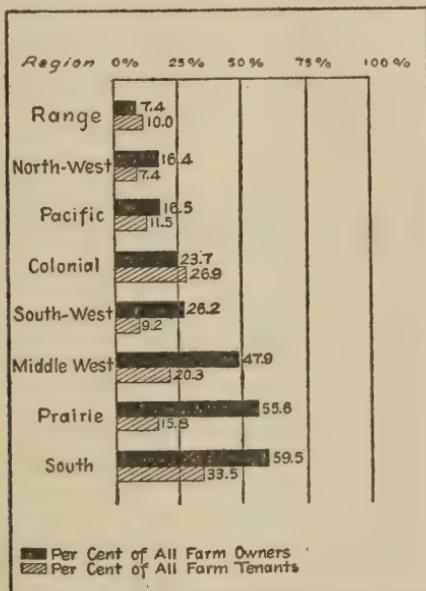


CHART VIII
CHURCH MEMBERSHIP AND LAND
TENURE—179 COUNTIES

Showing Per Cent. of Farm Owners and
Farm Tenants Who Are Church Members, by
Regions.

the farm owner. In only one region does the church membership include as large a proportion of the tenants as of the owners. The margin of difference becomes greater as the percentage of tenantry on the farms increases.

SOCIAL SURVEY IN TOWN AND COUNTRY AREAS

TABLE XXIX

FARM OWNERS AND FARM TENANTS CONTRASTED FROM
THE POINT OF VIEW OF CHURCH MEMBERSHIP
—BY REGIONS

179 Counties

Region	Percentage of All Farm Owners in Church Membership	Percentage of All Farm Tenants in Church Membership	Percentage of All Farm Operators Who Are Tenants	Percentage of All Farm Operators in Church Membership Who Are Tenants
Colonial	23.7	26.9	15.9	18.1
South	59.5	33.5	38.5	26.5
South West	26.2	9.2	43.9	21.7
North West	16.4	7.4	30.3	16.7
Middle West	47.9	20.3	28.9	15.0
Prairie	55.6	15.8	47.5	20.8
Range	7.4	10.0	18.8	24.3
Pacific	16.5	11.5	16.3	12.4
All Regions Com- bined	36.1	23.2	25.8	21.6

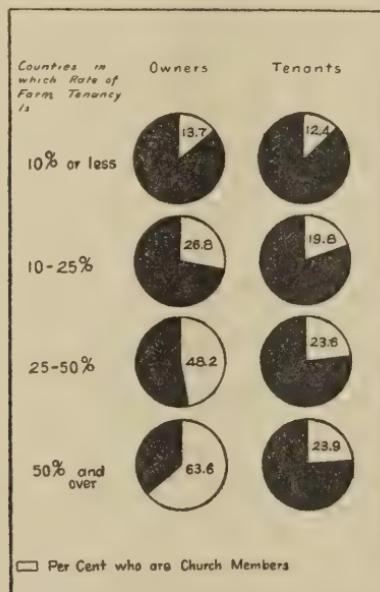


CHART IX

THE CHURCH AND THE TENANT
FARMER—179 COUNTIES

Showing the Relative Success of the Church in Reaching the Owner and the Tenant According to the Per Cent. of Tenancy on the Farms.

A STATISTICAL AND GRAPHIC SUMMARY

TABLE XXX

FARM OWNERS AND FARM TENANTS CONTRASTED FROM THE POINT OF VIEW OF CHURCH MEMBERSHIP—BY GROUPS OF COUNTIES ACCORDING TO THEIR RESPECTIVE RATES OF TENANCY

179 Counties

Note that although the proportion of all farmers who are church members increases as the rate of tenancy on the farms increases (the high tenancy counties being, generally speaking, counties in which the church is most securely established), the margin of difference between the proportion of farm owners and the proportion of farm tenants who are church members also increases.

SOCIAL SURVEY IN TOWN AND COUNTRY AREAS

D. Types of Communities¹

To throw light on the questions of what different types of population groupings there are in the town and country area, and of what is the relation of the open country residents to the population centers of various sizes, a detailed, community-by-community analysis was made of twenty-five counties containing 555 town and country communities. The four following tables summarize the data relating to population.

Table XXXI shows the number of communities of different types and distributes the total town and country population among them according to residence. Table XXXII gives the average population by type of community, differentiating between the population within the center and the open country population and indicating the ratio of one to the other. Table XXXIII shows, with somewhat more detail than Table XXXI, the distribution of the open country population by type of community. Table XXXIV gives by regions and for various types of communities the ratio of the open country population to the population within the community center. The significance of these tables may be summarized as follows:

- (1) A negligible proportion of all villages and towns is entirely without any open country, trade or social, constituency. All such places, in these counties, are exceptional and in very sparsely settled country.
- (2) The typical community unit, from the point of view of frequency, is one that contains a hamlet or small village.
- (3) A comparatively small proportion of the open country population is unattached to any sort of population center. A proportion not much larger is attached to the larger places, towns and cities.
- (4) Of the open country population, the proportion attached to a trade center tends to vary directly as the size of the center. The proportion of the country population to the population of the center tends to vary inversely as the size of the center.

¹ See Summary Volume, Chapter IV.

A STATISTICAL AND GRAPHIC SUMMARY

TABLE XXXI
DISTRIBUTION OF TOWN AND COUNTRY POPULATION BY TYPE OF COMMUNITY

Twenty-five Counties

Type of Community	Number of Communities	Town	Village over 1,000	Village 1,000 or under	Hamlet	Open Country	Total Population	Per Cent. of Open-Country Population	Per Cent. of Total Population
Open Country	103	.....	.....	.....	26,282	29,752	29,752	10.4	6.3
Hamlet	259	.....	.....	.....	84,789	111,071	29.5	23.4	
Villages with Open-Country Constituency	153	....	50,418	50,839	.....	113,940	215,197	39.6	45.4
Villages with no Open-Country Constituency	9	.....	1,129	5,080	.....	.....	6,209	.....	1.3
Towns	14	52,569	.....	.....	.....	25,552	78,061	8.9	16.5
Rural Areas of Cities	17	.....	.....	.....	.....	31,676	31,676	11.0	6.7
"Neutral" Zones	.....	52,509	51,547	55,919	26,282	1,670	1,670	.....	.6
Totals	555	52,509	51,547	55,919	26,282	287,379	473,636	100.	100.
Per cent. of Total Population	.....	11.08	10.88	11.81	5.55	60.68	100		

SOCIAL SURVEY IN TOWN AND COUNTRY AREAS

TABLE XXXII

VARIATION BY TYPE OF COMMUNITY IN AVERAGE POPULATION—DISTRIBUTED AS BETWEEN OPEN-COUNTRY AND THE COMMUNITY CENTER—AND IN AVERAGE RATIO OF OPEN-COUNTRY POPULATION TO POPULATION OF THE CENTER

Twenty-five Counties

Type of Community	Average Population			Average Ratio— Open-Country Population to Population of Center
	Community Center <i>i.e., Town, Village or Hamlet</i>	Open-Country Within Community	Total Community	
Town	3,751	1,825	5,576	49 to 100
Village of over 1,000	1,626	1,368	2,994	84 to 100
Village of 1,000 or less	417	586	1,003	140 to 100
Hamlet	101	327	428	324 to 100
Open-Country ... No Center		289	289	.....
City—Rural Area only	Not Included	1,863	.....	.....

TABLE XXXIII

PERCENTAGE DISTRIBUTION OF TOTAL OPEN-COUNTRY POPULATION BY TYPE OF COMMUNITY

Twenty-five Counties

Type of Community	Percentage of Total Open-Country Population Residing in Specified Type of Community	Type of Community	
		Hamlets	Towns
Town	8.89		
Village of over 1,000	14.75		
Village of 1,000 or less	24.89		
Hamlet	29.51		
Open-Country	10.36		
City—Rural Area	11.02		
Neutral Zones .....	.58		

TABLE XXXIV

RELATION OF TOTAL OPEN-COUNTRY POPULATION WITHIN TOWN, VILLAGE OR HAMLET COMMUNITIES TO TOTAL POPULATION WITHIN THE COMMUNITY CENTERS—BY REGIONS

Twenty-five Counties

Region	Number of Open-Country Population for Every 100 of Population Within the Community Center: Communities Centering in Villages of 1,000 or less			Towns
	Hamlets	1,000 or less	over 1,000	
Colonial	308	127	56	12
South	521	233	150	42
Middle West	331	160	143	58
Range	268	125	100	22
Pacific	244	109	66	113
All Regions Combined	324	140	84	49

A STATISTICAL AND GRAPHIC SUMMARY

Table XXXV shows the distribution of churches both by type of community and by actual location of churches within the communities where they are found. It will be noted that town and village communities may have both hamlet and open country churches, in addition to the churches within the town or village limits. In like manner a hamlet community may have both hamlet and open country churches. The village communities are shown to have a significantly large degree of importance. The open country and village churches are, numerically, the most important groups.

TABLE XXXV
DISTRIBUTION OF TOWN AND COUNTRY CHURCHES
Twenty-five Counties

Type of Community	Number of Churches Located in				Total Number	Per Cent. of Grand Total
	Town	Village	Hamlet	Open Country		
Town	78	...	2	13	93	9.0
Village .....	...	347	15	99	461	44.7
Hamlet .....	...	...	217	64	281	27.3
Open Country .....	...	...	...	165	165	16.0
City ¹ .....	...	...	...	31	31 ¹	3.0 ¹
Total Number	78	347	234	372	1,031	100.0
Per cent. of Grand Total	7.6	33.6	22.7	36.1		100.0

¹ Rural area only; churches within city limits *not* included.

The next five tables bear upon the question of the extent to which the town and country area in general and the open country population in particular are dependent upon town and village churches for religious service. They can best be understood in relation to the very detailed discussion of this question in Chapter IV of the summary volume, page 79.

Table XXXVI, in addition to reënforcing the point previously made as to the great disparity in size of country churches compared with village and town churches, points out three significant facts. *First*, town and village churches are not restricted in size by the proximity of country churches within their own communities. *Second*, country churches are seriously restricted in size by their proximity to towns and are seemingly unable to compete successfully with the larger and better organized town churches. *Third*, country churches in the vicinity of smaller population centers are not restricted in size thereby and are apparently not placed at a disadvantage by competition with near-by village churches.

SOCIAL SURVEY IN TOWN AND COUNTRY AREAS

TABLE XXXVI
VARIATION IN THE AVERAGE SIZE OF CHURCHES—BY TYPE
OF COMMUNITY

Twenty-five Counties

	<i>Average Size of Membership</i>
Town church in community having no country churches.....	207
Town church in community having country churches also.....	226
Village church in community having no country churches.....	101
Village church in community having country churches also.....	140
Country church in town community ¹	34
Country church in village community ¹	87
Country church in hamlet community ¹	70
Country church in open country community.....	78

¹ Includes both hamlet and open country churches.

Table XXXVII is a study of variations in community evangelization as affected by the type of church available. The following are the significant conclusions from these figures: *First*, neither town nor village church alone is adequate for the evangelization of open country population. *Second*, country churches in town communities, being retarded by their proximity to town, do not materially alter the situation for such communities, which make, in general, the poorest record in the evangelization of country people. On the other hand, the presence of country churches within village communities does materially alter the situation for such communities, so that village communities having both village and country churches make, in comparison with other types of communities, a very excellent record in this particular. *Third*, open country communities, dependent wholly upon open country churches, make a better record in evangelization than any other type of community.

TABLE XXXVII
PERCENTAGE OF (TOWN, VILLAGE, COUNTRY, TOTAL) POPU-
LATION IN PROTESTANT CHURCH MEMBERSHIP—BY
TYPE OF COMMUNITY

Twenty-five Counties

<i>Type of Community</i>	<i>Percentage of Population in Protestant Church Membership</i>		
	<i>Town or Village Population</i>	<i>Country Population</i>	<i>Total Population</i>
Town Community having Town Churches only	22.6	15.5	20.0
Village Community having Village Churches only	21.6	16.0	19.1
Town Community having both Town and Country Churches...	27.8	18.7	24.0
Village Community having both Village and Country Churches..	30.6	29.9	30.0
Country Community having Ham- let Churches .....	...	24.9	24.9
Country Community having only Open-Country Churches .....	...	31.9 ..	31.9

A STATISTICAL AND GRAPHIC SUMMARY

Tables XXXVIII and XXXIX are presented to indicate to just what extent the country population of these counties is dependent upon and actually makes use of the churches and Sunday schools of the villages and towns. The small relative importance that attaches to the town church or school as an agency of the country population is apparent. Of all country people who are church members only six out of every hundred belong to town churches. Of all who attend Sunday schools, fewer than four in a hundred attend town schools. The village church and Sunday school are much more important. But the country churches enroll more than two and a half times as many country members as the town and village churches combined, and the country Sunday schools enroll nearly three times as many country members as the town and village schools combined. Table XXXIX shows with what a slight degree of success a town or village Sunday school appeals to the available country population within its own community, and how markedly such a school is affected by the proximity of a country school. The conclusion is inevitable that as a matter of present fact it is upon the country church and Sunday school that reliance must be placed for the reaching of country people.

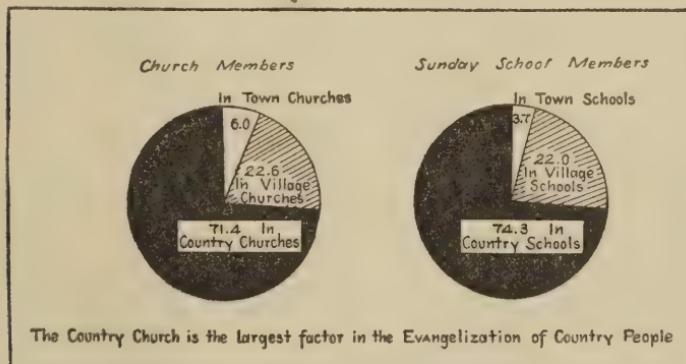


CHART X

WHERE THE FARMER GOES TO CHURCH AND SUNDAY SCHOOL —25 COUNTIES

Distribution of Church and Sunday School Members Living in the Country According to the Location of Church or School to Which They Belong.

SOCIAL SURVEY IN TOWN AND COUNTRY AREAS

TABLE XXXVIII

DISTRIBUTION OF TOTAL NUMBER OF COUNTRY PEOPLE WHO ARE CHURCH OR SUNDAY SCHOOL MEMBERS BY LOCATION OF CHURCH OR SUNDAY SCHOOL

Twenty-five Counties

<i>Location of Church or Sunday School</i>	<i>Number and Per Cent. of country people who are church members attached to specified type of church</i>		<i>Number and Per Cent. of country people who are Sunday school members attached to specified type of Sunday school</i>	
	<i>Number</i>	<i>Per Cent.</i>	<i>Number</i>	<i>Per Cent.</i>
Town	3,826	6.0	1,643	3.7
Village	14,491	22.6	9,855	22.0
Country	45,759	71.4	33,204	74.3

TABLE XXXIX

VARIATION IN PROPORTION OF COUNTRY POPULATION ENROLLED IN SUNDAY SCHOOL—BY TYPE OF COMMUNITY

Twenty-five Counties

<i>Type of Community</i>	<i>Proportion of Country Population Enrolled in Sunday Schools</i>		
	<i>Town or Village Schools</i>	<i>Country Schools</i>	<i>All Schools Combined</i>
Town community having <i>only town</i> Sunday schools	1 in 13	.....	1 in 13
Town community having <i>both town</i> and country schools	1 in 21	1 in 13	1 in 8
Village community having <i>only vil-</i> <i>lage</i> Sunday schools	1 in 8	.....	1 in 8
Village community having <i>both vil-</i> <i>lage</i> and country schools	1 in 14	1 in 9	1 in 5.4
Country (hamlet or open country) community .....	.....	1 in 5	1 in 5

Table XL deals with the question of the geographical extent of the church's influence under various conditions. A church parish is considered as the area within which its attendants and members actually live. It is apparent from this that a church parish tends to vary directly as the size of its community area, but that country churches in the vicinity of the largest centers tend to have their parish areas restricted thereby.

A STATISTICAL AND GRAPHIC SUMMARY

TABLE XL

AVERAGE SIZE OF CHURCH PARISHES BY LOCATION OF CHURCH AND TYPE OF COMMUNITY

Twenty-five Counties

<i>Location of Church</i>	<i>Type of Community</i>	<i>Average Size of Church Parishes in Square Miles</i>
Town	Town Community having Town Churches only	90.4
Town	Town Community having both Town and Country Churches	57.2
Village	Village Community having Village Churches only	21.5
Village	Village Community having both Village and Country Churches	15.6
Country	Town Community	18.
Country	Village Community	11.2
Country	Hamlet Community	14.9
Country	Open-Country Community	11.9
Country	City Community	7.1

E. Church Growth and Decline¹

Increase in membership is a natural aim in church work. So long as the church membership is such a small percentage of the total population, it is a reasonably fair test of church success. The *degree* of membership gain is, of course, affected by many different factors. The tables that follow illustrate various aspects of this question.

Table XLI shows the net membership increase in ten years for all the town and country churches in each region (expressed as a percentage of the previous membership) and the variations in net increase by counties. Population change is the major fact underlying the regional variation shown. The Range has been the most rapidly growing region in total town and country population, so far as these counties are concerned, with the Pacific Coast next. Several of the Colonial counties showed an actual decrease in population.

¹ See Summary Volume, Chapter V, under the same title.

SOCIAL SURVEY IN TOWN AND COUNTRY AREAS

TABLE XLI

PER CENT. OF NET INCREASE IN MEMBERSHIP DURING TEN YEARS FOR ALL CHURCHES HAVING TEN-YEAR-MEMBERSHIP RECORDS¹—BY REGIONS

Twenty-five Counties

<i>Region</i>	<i>Per Cent. Net Increase in Membership During Ten Years¹</i>	<i>Range in Per Cent. Net Increase in Membership During Ten Years—by Counties¹</i>
Colonial	7.8	-10.0 to 16.6
South	21.5	9.2 to 51.5
Middle West	19.6	3.7 to 49.4
Range	83.6	20.5 to 147.9
Pacific	55.9	-22.5 to 133.9

¹ Churches organized less than ten years, and churches lacking membership records for ten years, are excluded. All others are included.

In the remaining tables of this section, Tables XLII to XLVII, inclusive, the attention is centered not upon the question of the percentage of increase or decrease in church membership, but upon the question of the percentage of all the churches that made a net increase in membership as contrasted with those that suffered a net loss or remained stationary. Table XLII shows such percentages for all churches combined, by regions. It will be noted that the contrast between regions is by no means so sharp as in relation to the amount of net membership gain. Table XLIII gives the percentage of churches making a net growth for selected denominational families.

Four tables are introduced which relate this question to certain community conditions or to factors in church policy. Table XLIV, which is in three parts, shows *first*, that the fewer churches there are in a county in proportion to population the greater is the individual church's chance of growth; *second*, that the residence of the pastor is an important factor in church growth; *third*, that a church's chance of growth tends to vary according to the amount of pastoral service it receives.

Table XLV treats the question of pastoral residence in relation to church growth with more detail and from a slightly different point of view. That is, while the previous table showed, for example, that of all churches having a full-time resident pastor 75.2 per cent. made a net growth, this table shows that of all churches that made a net growth of, say, over 10 per cent., 55.8 per cent. had a resident pastor. Table XLVI, for greater emphasis upon an important point, relates the question solely to the full-time residence of the minister.

Table XLVII presents the contrast according to church location.

A STATISTICAL AND GRAPHIC SUMMARY

There are two significant points here. *First*, the town church makes a better showing than the village church and both better than the hamlet church; the difference being caused in part by relative population increase, and in part, doubtless, by the increasing importance of town and village as centers of rural interest. *Second*, a country church's chance of growth is affected, to an important degree, by its distance from the town or village.

TABLE XLII

CHURCH GROWTH AND DECLINE OVER A TEN-YEAR PERIOD
—BY REGIONS

Twenty-five Counties

Region	No. of Churches With 10-Yr. Membership Records	Percentage of Churches Which, Over a Ten- Year Period				¹ Gained Over 10 Per Cent.
		Had a Net Loss	Remained Stationary	Made a Net Gain		
Colonial	312	35.2	18.3	46.5		35.2
South	183	28.5	8.7	62.8		54.1
Middle West	223	31.8	6.8	61.4		55.1
Range	38	26.3	2.6	71.1		71.1
Pacific	106	24.5	2.8	72.7		64.1
All Regions						
Combined ...	862	31.2	10.7	58.1		49.5

¹ These churches included in "Made a Net Gain."

TABLE XLIII

PERCENTAGE OF CHURCHES MAKING A NET GROWTH
DURING TEN-YEAR PERIOD—FOR SELECTED
DENOMINATIONS¹

Twenty-five Counties

Denomination ¹	Per Cent. of All Churches Making Net Growth
Reformed	85.7
Congregational	71.0
Baptist	68.5
Presbyterian	65.0
Christian	63.0
Lutheran	60.0
Methodist Episcopal	52.6
Protestant Episcopal	52.3
Friends	46.2
Union or Community	38.4

¹ Closely affiliated or related denominations are combined.

SOCIAL SURVEY IN TOWN AND COUNTRY AREAS

TABLE XLIV

A COMPARISON OF CHURCHES SHOWING WHAT PROPORTION OF THE TOTAL NUMBER INCREASED, DECREASED OR REMAINED UNCHANGED IN MEMBERSHIP DURING TEN YEARS

Twenty-five Counties

(A) GROUPED ACCORDING TO THE NUMBER OF INHABITANTS TO THE INDIVIDUAL CHURCH IN THE COUNTY

<i>Churches in Counties That Have an Average of One Church Per</i>	<i>Per Cent. of All Churches in Which the Membership During Ten Years Showed</i>	<i>Net Increase</i>	<i>Net Decrease</i>	<i>No Change</i>
250 persons or less	46	39	15	
251 to 500 persons	58	32	10	
501 to 1,000 persons	66	26	8	
1,001 persons or more	76	19	5	

(B) ACCORDING TO THE TYPE OF PASTORAL SERVICE

<i>Churches Having</i>	<i>Per Cent. of All Churches in Which the Membership During Ten Years Showed</i>	<i>Net Increase</i>	<i>Net Decrease</i>	<i>No Change</i>
Full-time resident pastor	75.2	20.3	4.5	
Part-time resident pastor	63.2	24.5	12.3	
Non-resident pastor	44.7	41.1	14.2	
No pastor	48.3	42.5	9.2	

(C) ACCORDING TO THE PROPORTION OF A MINISTER'S TIME RECEIVED

<i>Churches Whose Minister</i>	<i>Per Cent. of All Churches in Which the Membership During Ten Years Showed</i>	<i>Net Increase</i>	<i>Net Decrease</i>	<i>No Change</i>
Gives full time to one church	73.9	20.5	5.6	
Serves two churches	52.8	32.4	14.8	
Serves three churches	47.8	39.7	12.5	
Serves four or more churches	50.3	35.9	13.8	

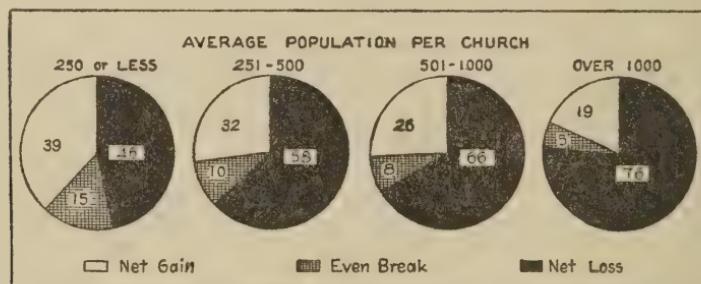


CHART XI

THE RELATIVE FREQUENCY OF CHURCHES AS A FACTOR IN THEIR GROWTH—25 COUNTIES

Showing Per Cent. of Churches Divided According to Average Population Per Church in Their Communities, Which Had a Net Gain, an Even Break and a Net Loss in Membership.

A STATISTICAL AND GRAPHIC SUMMARY

TABLE XLV

PERCENTAGE DISTRIBUTION OF CHURCHES ACCORDING TO TYPE OF PASTORAL SERVICE IN RELATION TO THE DEGREE OF GROWTH OR DECLINE IN MEMBERSHIP

Twenty-five Counties

Direction and Degree of Change in Church Member- ship During Year	Percentage of All Churches Showing Specified Direction and Degree of Change in Membership With		
	A Resident Pastor	A Non-resident Pastor	No Pastor
Losing	29.6	57.2	13.2
No change	31.5	59.8	8.7
Gaining less than 5 per cent. ..	48.8	43.9	7.3
Gaining from 5-10 per cent. ..	54.5	39.4	6.1
Gaining over 10 per cent.	55.8	35.1	9.1

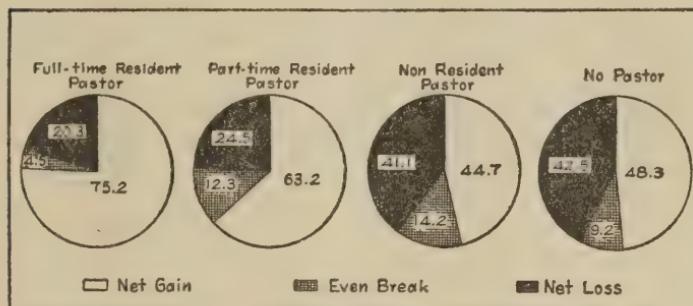


CHART XII

THE PASTOR AS A FACTOR IN CHURCH GROWTH, A TEN-YEAR RECORD —25 COUNTIES

Showing Per Cent. of Churches, Divided According to Residence of Pastor, Which Had a Net Gain, an Even Break and a Net Loss in Membership.

TABLE XLVI

RELATION OF A FULL-TIME RESIDENT PASTOR TO CHURCH GROWTH OR DECLINE

Twenty-five Counties

Churches the Membership of Which Showed	Per Cent. of Churches Having the Full Time of a Resident Pastor
Net decrease	16
No change	13
Net gain under 5 per cent. ..	27
Net gain 5-10 per cent. ..	29
Net gain over 10 per cent.	34

SOCIAL SURVEY IN TOWN AND COUNTRY AREAS

TABLE XLVII

CHURCH GROWTH AND DECLINE OVER A TEN-YEAR PERIOD BY LOCATION OF CHURCH

Twenty-five Counties

	Percentage of Churches That, Over a Ten-Year Period,		
	Had a Net Loss	Remained Stationary	Made a Net Gain
In a Town	9	3	88
In a Village	27	10	63
In a Hamlet	45	8	47
In Open-Country, within two miles of a Center	37	26	37
In Open-Country, more than two miles from a Center	35	10	55

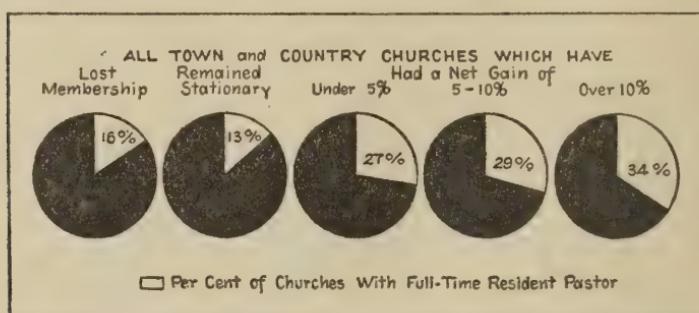


CHART XIII

PASTORAL RESIDENCE AS A FACTOR IN CHURCH GROWTH —25 COUNTIES

Showing Per Cent. of Town and Country Churches, Divided According to Membership Change During 10 Years, Which Have a Full-Time Resident Pastor.

F. Home Mission Aid¹

Only two tables are included on this topic. Table XLVIII shows, in relation to the total number of churches of certain denominations, the proportion of those that receive Home Mission aid. Table XLIX deals with competition as a factor in Home Mission aid. Competition was considered to exist when an aided church shared a town or village or hamlet field with another church or, if a country church, had another church within five miles. To make the situation clearer, the churches were divided into three type-groups. From these figures it is apparent that few of the aided churches in these counties are in non-competitive fields.

¹ See summary volume, Chapter VI, "Home Mission Aid as a Factor in Rural Church Development."

A STATISTICAL AND GRAPHIC SUMMARY

TABLE XLVIII

PROPORTION OF ALL CHURCHES RECEIVING HOME MISSION AID, BY DENOMINATIONS

Twenty-five Counties

<i>Denomination</i>	<i>Total Number of Churches</i>	<i>Number of Churches Aided</i>	<i>Per Cent. of Churches Aided</i>
Protestant Episcopal	47	23	49
M. E. South	69	30	42
M. E.	268	73	27
Lutheran (Various Synods)	57	14	25
Congregational	39	9	23
Presbyterian, U.S.A.	82	16	20
Baptist, South	77	11	14
Baptist, North	90	10	11
Disciples and Church of Christ ..	48	3	6
All Others	111	22	20

TABLE XLIX

INTERDENOMINATIONAL COMPETITION AS A FACTOR IN HOME MISSION AID BY TYPES OF DENOMINATIONS

Twenty-five Counties

<i>Per Cent. of Churches Receiving Home Mission Aid Which</i>	<i>Churches of Denominations That Practice Baptism by Immersion¹</i>	<i>Churches of Liturgical Denominations²</i>	<i>Other Protestant Denominations³</i>
Do not compete with any other church	11.5	3.3	19.6
Compete with churches of another group only	30.8	63.3	10.5
Compete with other aided churches of same group	15.4	13.3	47.5
Compete with self-supporting churches only, of same group	42.3	20.0	22.4
Compete with other churches of same group, whether aided or not (total of two foregoing classifications)	57.7	33.3	69.9

¹ Chiefly Baptist and Disciple.

² Chiefly Protestant Episcopal and Lutheran.

³ Chiefly Methodist, Congregational, and Presbyterian.

G. Religious Education¹

The importance of religious education in the program of the church is being increasingly recognized. At perhaps no other point is the weakness of the town and country church so apparent or its need of improvement so pressing. The real significance of this is difficult to illustrate statistically, but the appended tables describe some of the obvious and objective factors in the problem.

¹ See summary volume, Chapter VII, "Religious Education in the Rural Church School."

SOCIAL SURVEY IN TOWN AND COUNTRY AREAS

Table L is a regional comparison that brings out three important points. *First*, in all regions a considerable number of churches have no Sunday schools, which, as the facts go, is virtually the same as saying that they have no program of religious education, since these churches without Sunday schools almost always lack the other developed means of education. *Second*, in the older-settled regions, Sunday school enrollment is considerably less than church membership; in the newer sections, it is considerably more. In the former instance, the weakness is in the Sunday school program; the loss is in the general education of the church constituency. In the latter instance, the weakness is one of follow-up and recruiting; the loss is in permanent church strength. *Third*, in general the Sunday school reaches the farm population less effectively than it reaches the residents of town, village and hamlet. The distance factor is important here. In this, the South is markedly an exception.

Table LI gives, by regions, the average enrollment of the three prevalent types of schools. These are schools attached to organized churches, schools attached to unorganized preaching points and detached or wholly independent schools. The latter type is usually found in isolated places or neglected neighborhoods where it is the only form of religious service provided. Such schools, in earlier days, were the forerunners of the churches through much of the pioneer West. This type of school is also frequently found in the rural areas near large cities, where its presence is to be accounted for by the dual difficulty of maintaining a country church against city competition or of transporting rural children to city schools. In general, the largest schools are those attached to organized churches.

Table LII divides the Sunday schools according to their location in town, village or country, showing the percentage of the total number of schools and of the total enrollment in each group, and contrasting them as to average enrollment and average attendance. The town schools are by a considerable margin the largest and the country schools the smallest. The fact that town schools show the highest percentage of attendance to enrollment reflects the greater physical ease of attendance in town, especially in view of the fact to which attention was earlier called, that town schools reach comparatively few country residents.

Table LIII shows the effect of a resident pastor upon various items of the program of religious education. The great advantage of churches having resident pastors over those without them is clearly evident from these figures.

A STATISTICAL AND GRAPHIC SUMMARY

TABLE L
SUNDAY SCHOOLS—NUMBER AND ENROLLMENT RELATIVE TO NUMBER AND MEMBERSHIP OF CHURCHES, PROPORTION OF POPULATION ENROLLED AND PERCENTAGE OF ENROLLMENT FROM FARM HOMES—BY REGIONS

Region	Per Cent. of All Churches Having Sunday Schools	Per Cent. Which Sun- day School Enrollment is of Church Membership	Per Cent. of Population in Sunday School	Per Cent. of Population in Total Farm Population	Per Cent. of Total Population From Farm Homes	Per Cent. Sunday School Enrollment From Farm Homes	Per Cent. of Town and Country Population Living on Farms
Colonial	88.7	82	20	15.4	47.9	61.5	
South	87.1	77	19	24.0	63.8	51.0	
Middle West	94.6	63	19	18.0	51.5	57.4	
Range	88.4	107	14	12.0	47.2	42.7	
Pacific	95.1	120	15	14.3	43.1	44.0	
All Regions Combined	91.2	84	18	17.0	51.2	54.4	

SOCIAL SURVEY IN TOWN AND COUNTRY AREAS

TABLE LI

AVERAGE ENROLLMENT OF SUNDAY SCHOOLS ACCORDING TO TYPE OF SCHOOL—BY REGIONS

Twenty-five Counties

Region	Average Sunday School Enrollment		
	Schools Attached to Organized Churches	Schools Attached to Unorganized Preaching Pts.	Detached Schools
Colonial	79	28	32
South	77	55	50
Middle West	83	90	25
Range	78	13	43
Pacific	103	46	35
All Regions, Combined	81	43	40

TABLE LII

SUNDAY SCHOOLS—PER CENT. OF TOTAL NUMBER AND OF TOTAL ENROLLMENT IN TOWN, VILLAGE AND COUNTRY; AVERAGE ENROLLMENT AND ATTENDANCE OF TOWN, VILLAGE AND COUNTRY SCHOOLS

Schools Located in	Per Cent. Total Number of Schools	Per Cent. of Total Enrollment	Average Enrollment	Average Attendance	Per Cent. of Attendance
					Enrollment
Town	7.0	14.7	148	103	70.0
Village	40.0	46.4	95	60	63.0
Country	53.0	38.9	58	38	65.5
All combined .	100.0	100.0	81	53	65.0

TABLE LIII

EFFECT OF A RESIDENT PASTOR UPON VARIOUS ITEMS OF PROGRAM OF RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Twenty-five Counties

Items of Program	Per Cent. of Sunday Schools Having Specified Item of Program		
	Schools Attached to Churches Having a Resident Pastor	Schools Attached to Churches Having a Non-resident Pastor	Schools Attached to Churches Having a Non-resident Pastor
Classes to prepare for church membership	29.0	12.0	12.0
Missionary Education in Sunday school	33.5	22.0	22.0
Members of Sunday school recruited for Christian Life work	26.0	7.0	7.0
Classes in teacher or leadership training	28.0	8.0	8.0
Graded lessons in Sunday school ..	24.4	5.6	5.6

These percentages hold, in general, for all Regions.

A STATISTICAL AND GRAPHIC SUMMARY

H. Equipment and Finance¹

That country church equipment has, on the average, as low a degree of utility as of beauty is well known. The typical country church is a bare, unembellished structure of one or two rooms, the value of which is considerably less than that of an average dwelling. The village churches represent a higher average valuation and a greater degree of adaptation to a varied church program. The town churches, both in value and utility, exceed the village churches by a greater margin than that by which the village churches exceed the country churches. The three tables on equipment that are included here deal only with average valuation.

Table LIV gives, by regions, the average valuation of town, village and country churches. Table LV distributes all the churches according to certain specified variations in value. The small proportion of the churches in the higher-value groups is significant. Table LVI shows, by regions, the proportion of town, village and country churches separately, and of all together that have a valuation of \$1,500 or less. The disparity between the country and the larger centers is marked in all regions except the Middle West.

TABLE LIV

AVERAGE VALUATION OF (TOWN, VILLAGE, COUNTRY) CHURCH BUILDINGS—BY REGIONS

Twenty-five Counties

Region	Average Valuation of Church Buildings			General Average	Church Buildings Valued at \$1,500 or Less	
	Town	Village	Churches Located In Country		Entire Town and Country Area	Per Cent. of Total No. of Buildings
Colonial	\$34,000	\$7,697	\$3,451	\$5,543	84	24.2
South	14,750	6,838	1,516	2,700	139	63.2
Middle West ..	11,027	6,308	3,752	5,544	24	9.9
Range	14,500	3,431	1,671	7,773	11	22.0
Pacific	16,396	4,601	1,891	5,011	44	32.8
All Regions						
Combined .	14,799	6,437	2,750	4,955	302	30.4

¹ See summary volume, Chapter VIII, under the same title.

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TABLE LV

CHURCH BUILDINGS GROUPED ACCORDING TO VARIATION
IN VALUE

Twenty-five Counties

<i>Value</i>	<i>Number and Per Cent. of All Church Buildings Having Specified Value</i>	
	<i>Number</i>	<i>Per Cent.</i>
Less than \$1,000	106	10.7
\$ 1,000- 2,000	252	25.4
2,000- 3,000	177	17.8
3,000- 4,000	116	11.7
4,000- 5,000	73	7.3
5,000- 10,000	137	13.8
10,000- 15,000	56	5.6
15,000- 20,000	30	3.0
20,000-100,000	47	4.7
Total	994	100.0

TABLE LVI

PER CENT. OF ALL (TOWN, VILLAGE, COUNTRY) CHURCH
BUILDINGS WHICH HAVE A VALUATION OF \$1,500 OR
LESS—BY REGIONS

Twenty-five Counties

<i>Region</i>	<i>Town</i>	<i>Churches Located in Village</i>	<i>Country</i>	<i>All Town and Country Churches Combined</i>
Colonial .....	...	14.8	30.9	24.2
South		20.5	74.0	63.2
Middle West	13.3	11.8	7.8	9.9
Range .....	...	30.7	46.6	22.0
Pacific .....	...	23.0	60.0	32.8
All Regions Com- bined	5.3	17.1	41.8	30.4

Tables LVII to LXI, inclusive, concern the financial records of the churches. These can be dealt with only objectively, without reference to the relative financial resources of the various counties, communities or churches. The relation of giving to financial ability will be considered in detail in another volume of the Institute of Social and Religious Research, now in process of preparation.

Table LVII is a comparison, for town, village and country churches, of total budgets and of per capita giving for various specified purposes. The per capita figures are, of course, more significant than the totals, in view of the considerable differences in average membership of town, village and country churches. With a larger membership and a higher per capita of gifts for all purposes, the town church is able to pay its minister's salary with a smaller propor-

A STATISTICAL AND GRAPHIC SUMMARY

tion of its total budget, thus releasing a relatively larger amount for benevolences and miscellaneous expenses. The country church "lives nearer the line," and a larger proportion of its total budget is required for bare operating expenses, even with its more meager program. For all churches, however, a significantly large proportion of the total amount raised is devoted to benevolent purposes.

Table LVIII is a comparison, by regions, of the average per capita gifts of churches with full-time resident pastors and of churches with non-resident pastors. The contrast is striking. It is probably as nearly true, however, that greater financial ability enables a church to have a full-time resident pastor as that such a pastor increases per capita giving of the church membership. This

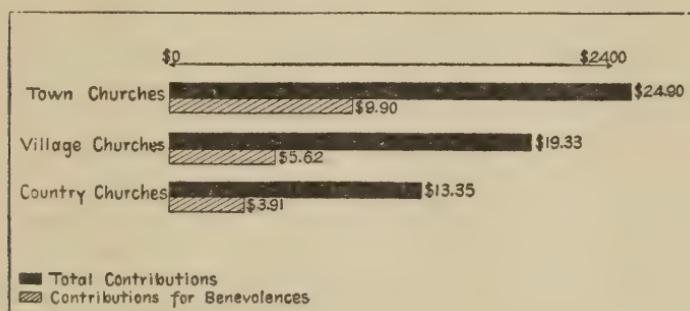


CHART XIV

WHAT THE AVERAGE CHURCH MEMBER INVESTS IN HIS CHURCH
—25 COUNTIES

Annual Per Capita Contributions Contrasted for Town, Village and Country Churches.

is really a comparison between the strongest town, village and hamlet churches on the one hand and the country churches with the weakest of the town and village churches on the other.

Table LIX contrasts the various regions as to the percentage distribution of the average church budget for salaries, benevolences and miscellaneous purposes. The Pacific and Middle West counties, which are the wealthiest in this group, devote the smallest proportion of the total to salaries. The Southern counties, however, which are by no means the strongest financially, have, by a considerable margin, the highest proportion devoted to benevolences.

Table LX gives, by regions, the average and mode in ministers' salaries, contrasting ministers who serve but one church each with those who each serve two or more churches. The difference between

SOCIAL SURVEY IN TOWN AND COUNTRY AREAS

the two groups is not very great, except in one region. The striking difference between the average and the mode in the South is accounted for by the large number of ministers who serve but one church each, but who also have other occupations and whose salaries are thus extremely low. The effect of this is also seen in the figures for the Southwest.

Table LXI shows, by regions, the percentage of all ministers receiving various specified rates of salary. This gives a truer picture of the actual situation than does the preceding table. Forty-three per cent. of all ministers receive not to exceed \$1,250 per annum. In the South this percentage is 47.3. In all regions, comparatively few of the ministers are in the higher-salaried groups.

In the above tables, where a minister receives the free use of a house, \$250 is added to the cash salary as its rental equivalent. Thus an average salary given at \$1250 might be expressed as an average of \$1,000 and free use of a house.

TABLE LVII

COMPARISON OF TOTAL BUDGETS AND PER CAPITA GIVING FOR TOWN, VILLAGE, AND COUNTRY CHURCHES

Twenty-five Counties

Average Total	Budget Per Church	Average Per Capita Gifts For			
		Benevo- lences	Salary of Minister	Miscel- laneous Expenses	All Purposes
Town churches	\$4,018.53	\$9.90	\$7.60	\$7.40	\$24.90
Village churches	1,742.09	5.62	7.61	6.10	19.33
Country churches ...	698.57	3.91	6.28	3.16	13.35
All churches com- bined	1,311.42	5.64	7.06	5.11	17.81

TABLE LVIII

COMPARISON OF PER CAPITA GIFTS FOR CHURCHES WITH FULL-TIME RESIDENT PASTOR AND CHURCHES WITH NON-RESIDENT PASTOR—BY REGIONS

Twenty-five Counties

Region	Average Per Capita Gifts of Membership for	
	Church Budget	Churches With Non- resident Pastor
Colonial	\$18.36	\$12.75
South	20.01	7.91
Middle West	21.08	14.48
Range	15.65	13.59
Pacific	30.34	20.38
All Regions Combined ...	20.96	13.37

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TABLE LIX

PERCENTAGE DISTRIBUTION OF AVERAGE CHURCH BUDGET BY TYPES OF EXPENDITURE—BY REGIONS

Twenty-five Counties

Region	<i>Per Cent. of Average Church Budget Expendited For</i>		
	<i>Salary of Minister</i>	<i>Benevolences</i>	<i>All Other Purposes</i>
Colonial	46.3	27.0	26.7
South	42.0	37.0	21.0
Middle West	38.0	31.1	30.9
Range	45.2	24.4	30.4
Pacific	35.4	32.3	32.3
All Regions Combined	41.1	30.4	28.5

TABLE LX

THE AVERAGE AND MODE IN MINISTERS' SALARIES (SEPARATELY FOR MINISTERS SERVING ONE CHURCH ONLY AND FOR THOSE SERVING TWO OR MORE CHURCHES)—BY REGIONS

179 Counties

Region	<i>Salary of Ministers Serving One Church Only</i>		<i>Salary of Ministers Serving Two or More Churches</i>	
	<i>Average</i>	<i>Mode</i>	<i>Average</i>	<i>Mode</i>
Colonial	\$1,285	\$1,200	\$1,300	\$1,250
South	1,316	2,500	1,265	1,250
South West	1,425	1,750	1,185	1,450
North West	1,621	1,455	1,500	1,500
Middle West	1,448	1,250	1,128	1,500
Prairie	1,240	1,250	1,718	1,750
Range	1,525	1,500	1,392	1,250
Pacific	1,537	1,750	1,296	1,500
All Regions Combined ..	1,430	1,236	1,300	1,200

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TABLE LXI
PERCENTAGE OF ALL MINISTERS RECEIVING SPECIFIED RATE OF SALARY—BY REGIONS

Region	179 Counties						<i>Over \$2,500</i>
	\$501 or Less	\$750	\$1,000	\$1,250	\$1,500	\$1,750	
Colonial	2.4	2.4	17.2	29.5	24.9	13.5	2.9
South	10.8	5.5	14.2	16.8	13.2	12.2	6.3
South West	11.6	5.8	8.2	22.1	20.9	12.8	5.8
North West	2.0	6.1	17.2	25.3	16.2	8.1	14.0
Middle West	2.2	2.3	8.7	25.6	24.5	20.5	5.8
Prairie	3.2	6.5	6.5	25.8	29.0	16.1	6.5
Range	2.4	2.4	7.3	23.0	27.3	14.0	9.7
Pacific	2.8	4.3	9.9	17.1	21.3	21.8	6.6
All Regions Combined	5.4	3.7	11.8	22.1	20.9	15.7	5.9
							7.2
							1.9
							5.4

A STATISTICAL AND GRAPHIC SUMMARY

I. Organizations and Program¹

The country church can hardly be said to be overorganized. It maintains an organization on a minimum program of twelve preaching services a year. At the other extreme are individual churches with every known variety of auxiliary organization. The average, however, is nearer the minimum than the maximum.

Table LXII gives the percentage of churches having organizations for different age-groups and sex-groups, first by regions and second by location of church in town, village or country. The conclusions may be summarized as follows:

First, in all regions an overwhelming majority of the churches are without organizations specifically for men, boys or girls. In all regions but the South a majority have organizations for women.

Second, most of such organizations as there are for men, boys and girls are in town churches.

Table LXIII shows the percentage of the total number of all organizations for different age-groups and sex-groups within each region, compared with the percentage of the total number of churches that each region has. The Colonial area, with about one third of the churches, has more than half the organizations for men. The Range, however, has the largest number of these organizations proportionately. The South has, by a wide margin, the fewest proportionately. The Pacific counties have the most boys' organizations proportionately, and the South the fewest. Girls', women's and mixed organizations are more evenly distributed.

Table LXIV is a regional comparison, relating the frequency of young people's organizations in the churches to the size and age distribution of the membership and to growth in membership. This shows that, as a rule, the churches with young people's organizations have a larger average membership than those without, have a larger proportion of minors in the membership and make a larger percentage of annual gain in membership.

Table LXV shows the relation of a resident pastor to various items of the church program, by regions. Six items of program are noted. Only one of these, the revival service, appears in a larger proportion of the churches without resident pastors than of those with resident pastors, which is natural enough, since the revival, in usual practice, is something of a substitute for pastoral service. The other items mentioned are of the sort that require systematic leadership which the non-resident pastor has difficulty

¹ See summary volume, Chapter XI, "The Rural Church Program."

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in supplying. There is, of course, another side to this table. A disappointingly small proportion of all churches, irrespective of whether they have resident pastors or not, have classes to prepare for church membership, a system of missionary education or leadership training or teacher training, or have furnished life work recruits.

Table LXVI gives, by regions, the percentage rating of all churches according to the Par Standard. This standard is given in full in Appendix IV, page 133. It is here summarized under five heads. In most particulars the Pacific and Colonial regions have the highest rating, with the Middle West next and the South last. Equipment is the strongest point for all regions and services and coöperation the weakest.

TABLE LXII

PERCENTAGE OF CHURCHES HAVING ORGANIZATIONS FOR DIFFERENT AGE-GROUPS AND SEX-GROUPS¹

Twenty-five Counties

(A) BY REGIONS

Per Cent. of All Churches Having Organiza-
tions For

<i>Region</i>	<i>Men</i>	<i>Women</i>	<i>Boys</i>	<i>Girls</i>	<i>Both Sexes Combined</i>
Colonial	6.0	67.0	4.3	4.0	36.5
South	1.0	23.5	.4	2.0	22.2
Middle West	2.0	63.8	3.5	9.0	39.0
Range	10.0	62.3	4.3	8.7	39.0
Pacific	3.5	59.8	7.7	5.6	48.6
All Regions Combined	3.7	55.3	3.7	5.3	35.7

(B) BY LOCATION OF CHURCHES

Per Cent. of All Churches Having Organiza-
tions For

<i>Churches Located in</i>	<i>Men</i>	<i>Women</i>	<i>Boys</i>	<i>Girls</i>	<i>Both Sexes Combined</i>
Town	16.6	84.6	14.1	25.6	70.5
Village	5.1	69.5	5.9	7.6	46.9
Country	1.3	43.4	1.1	1.4	24.9

¹ Sunday schools and Sunday school classes excluded.

A STATISTICAL AND GRAPHIC SUMMARY

TABLE LXIII

PERCENTAGE DISTRIBUTION OF ALL ORGANIZATIONS FOR DIFFERENT AGE-GROUPS AND SEX-GROUPS¹—BY REGIONS

Twenty-five Counties

Region	Region	Per Cent. of All Organizations of Specified Kind Within This Region: Organizations For Both Sexes				Combined
		Men	Women	Boys	Girls	
Colonial	33.2	51.3	40.4	38.5	23.6	33.9
South	22.4	5.1	9.5	2.6	9.1	13.9
Middle West	24.3	12.8	28.0	23.0	41.8	26.7
Range	6.5	18.0	7.4	7.7	10.9	7.1
Pacific	13.6	12.8	14.7	28.2	14.6	18.4
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

¹ Sunday schools and Sunday school classes are excluded.

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TABLE LXIV
FREQUENCY OF YOUNG PEOPLE'S ORGANIZATIONS IN CHURCHES AND THEIR RELATION TO SIZE AND AGE DISTRIBUTION OF CHURCH MEMBERSHIP AND TO GROWTH IN MEMBERSHIP—BY REGIONS

Region	Twenty-five Counties					Per Cent. Annual Gain in Membership in Churches				
	Per Cent. of All Churches Which Have Young People's Organizations	Per Cent. of Total Church Membership in These Churches	Average Membership in Churches With Young People's Organizations	Per Cent. Minors in Total Membership of Churches With Young People's Organizations	Per Cent. Annual Gain in Membership in Churches Without Young People's Organizations	With Young People's Organizations	Without Young People's Organizations	Young People's Organizations	Young People's Organizations	Young People's Organizations
Colonial	37.1	54.2	114	57	22.8	18.4	7.7	9.3	10.4	10.4
South	19.2	29.2	122	71	31.9	29.5	15.3	15.3	11.5	7.7
Middle West	37.4	52.9	149	79	32.8	26.4	26.4	26.4	23.2	10.9
Range	42.0	63.4	107	45	24.6	17.8	17.8	17.8	17.2	17.7
Pacific	49.3	74.6	125	41	28.4	26.0	26.0	24.7	12.5	9.8
All regions combined	35.1	51.7	123	64	28.2	24.7	24.7	24.7		

A STATISTICAL AND GRAPHIC SUMMARY

TABLE LXV
RELATION OF A RESIDENT PASTOR TO VARIOUS ITEMS OF THE CHURCH PROGRAM—BY REGIONS

Twenty-five Counties

Regions	Churches with Resident Pastor	Revival Services Classes to Prepare for Church Membership During Last 5 Years			Per Cent. of Churches Having A System of Missionary Education			A Teacher Training Class			Furnished Life Work Recruits		
		All Churches	All with Other Churches	All Resident Pastors	All Churches	Other Resident Pastors	Resident Pastors	All Churches	Other Resident Pastors	Resident Pastors	All Churches	Other Resident Pastors	Resident Pastors
Colonial	22.5	25.9	11.8	9.5	19.0	14.4	4.0	2.3	7.5	4.9	8.9	3.8	3.8
South	12.0	56.4	2.6	.4	5.6	13.7	2.5	2.2	2.5	.4	1.7	7.7	7.7
Middle West	18.5	19.3	16.9	7.1	17.3	6.3	5.5	1.2	6.7	1.6	11.0	3.1	3.1
Range	26.9	10.4	0.0	0.0	11.9	1.5	4.5	1.5	6.0	1.4	3.0	1.5	1.5
Pacific	29.7	9.7	11.7	2.1	24.8	6.9	6.2	.7	9.0	0.0	19.3	2.7	2.7
All regions combined	20.4	28.9	10.9	5.3	16.0	10.4	4.4	1.7	6.3	2.2	8.8	4.2	4.2

SOCIAL SURVEY IN TOWN AND COUNTRY AREAS

TABLE LXVI

PERCENTAGE RATING OF CHURCHES ACCORDING TO PAR
STANDARD—BY REGIONS

Twenty-five Counties

*Percentage Rating of Churches According to Major
Classifications of Par Standard¹*

Region	Physical Equip- ment	Religious Services				All Items Combined
		Minister	Finance	Educa- tion	and Coöp- eration	
Colonial	59.6	47.4	54.2	32.8	22.2	44.9
South	37.5	18.1	45.9	26.3	15.5	29.4
Middle West	50.6	50.1	52.6	34.2	9.3	41.1
Range	43.1	42.8	35.7	33.8	22.2	36.9
Pacific	62.6	61.1	47.7	38.8	22.1	48.9
All regions com- bined	51.8	43.1	49.9	32.6	17.6	40.5 ²

¹ This is understood to mean the actual percentage of the maximum possible number of affirmative answers on the various points included in the Par Standard under each major classification. It, therefore, represents the percentage of "Par" efficiency attained under each head. For the Par Standard in full see page 134 of the Appendix.

² The highest total rating of any county was 58.6 per cent.; the lowest 23 per cent.

PART TWO

PART TWO

CHAPTER I

The Development of the Survey Idea

THE social survey is a part of the new orthodoxy. "Differentiation," "adaptation," "standardization," are important new words in the ecclesiastical vocabulary. The first attempts to apply the methods of the social survey to religious problems met with an attitude of rather supercilious disdain on the part of the elect. In the good old days we pinned our faith to "religion *per se.*" The Church did not consciously concern itself with problems of adaptation. Adaptation there was, but it could hardly claim official sanction. This was primarily for two reasons. The first was the general lack of discrimination in our thinking about the religious needs and proclivities of men and communities. As a substitute for discrimination, we relied upon easy generalization about the human race and that statistical and theological abstraction, the "average man." Hence, a comparatively undifferentiated approach to the problems of religious organization and development—the same message, the same organization, the same emphasis, the same program, relied upon for all and sundry. Medicine had much the same history, only that chapter is further back. With the old doctor the choice was "physic him or bleed him." The minister had as simple a formula. Scientific diagnosis is modern. So it has not been very long since one who in church work radically altered his approach because he conceived his particular segment of the population to be peculiar in its problems, even though he adhered to the generally accepted purposes and motives, was regarded as somewhat dangerously heretical.

The second reason was in our limited conception of the interrelation and interaction of religious and other factors in the life of the community or of the individual. The church did not generally recognize what forces and conditions actually do limit religious development or influence the kind and degree of religious experience. Religion was considered apart from its normal social setting. A

SOCIAL SURVEY IN TOWN AND COUNTRY AREAS

comforting uniformity could be secured by eliminating from consideration all variables in the problem. We now see that the only possible constants in church work are the basic purpose and the fundamental message. All other factors are variable. We find people in every conceivable variety of circumstance. The differences in their inheritance, natural endowment, environment and outlook run the whole gamut of possibility. Of course, the *fact* of such differences is not a modern discovery, although their analysis and classification have engaged attention only in recent years. But that such differences have a vital relation to the problem of religious development *is* a modern discovery. The church was wont to ignore them.

Gradually the old attitude has changed. The increasing complexity of our population and of our economic and social life has impressively demonstrated an increasing complexity in our religious problem. The tremendous growth of cities, the influx of foreigners, the moving tides of migration between country and city, the rapid industrial expansion, the fundamental changes in the industrial and social balance of our national life, and the many other forces that have so radically altered our social and civic outlook have had an unmistakable meaning for religious work. The implications of these changes have been inescapable, particularly as concerns the exceptional elements in our population; but latterly they have been clear enough in the other areas also. The increasingly precarious status of the religious enterprise at the two extremes of our national life, the great city on the one hand and the open country on the other, could hardly fail to make its meaning clear.

In the course of national development, marked differences have appeared in religious experience and in the outer manifestations of that experience between regions and between areas within regions, which differences have been obviously related to differences in social, economic, racial or cultural conditions. Many recent writers have engaged in the attempt to measure and describe these regional variations. Just as analysis and criticism in the educational, social and industrial fields have been bringing the structure of our community life into view, so they have revealed the structure also of our religious problem. Hence, the new orthodoxy which has displaced its skepticism of the analytical method with an almost pathetically credulous reliance upon surveys and statistics. "Statistics prove" and "surveys show" are now the accepted parlance of the ecclesiastical forum.

The application of the method of the social survey to the town and country religious field was occasioned initially by the conviction

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that the rural church had fallen upon evil days. Roosevelt's Country Life Commission emphasized in its report certain serious aspects of the rural situation in general, not forgetting to mention the church. This report ushered in an era of widespread criticism and discussion. Thoughtful observers of the church were alarmed by the many evidences of rural religious decadence. Among other signs were these: the increase in the number of abandoned churches; the great preponderance of very small memberships among country churches; the increasing difficulty of establishing pastors in the country and keeping them there; the measurable decrease in evangelistic returns from the country churches and a growing tendency to discount the country church as a field of service. New demands for leadership in rural fields call attention to the fact that although many ministers preached in country churches, few of them lived in country parishes. The emphasis upon a broader program of religious education and community service, with its inevitable needs of somewhat elaborated equipment, revealed the fact that most country churches had structures adapted only to the preaching service. Increasing emphasis upon the missionary task of the church elicited meager response from country congregations that either were insufficiently trained in missionary interests or had not the money to give to missionary enterprises. These and many other things were the straws that showed the way the tide was setting. But of detailed and reliable information, to measure accurately these tendencies and furnish their explanation, there was almost none to be had.

The Board of Home Missions of the Presbyterian Church in the U. S. A. was the first denominational organization to address itself to a study of the rural field in any thoroughgoing fashion. Fourteen years ago this Board called Dr. Warren H. Wilson to head a Department of Church and Country Life and to begin pioneering in this field. Among other lines of service which he inaugurated was an extensive series of social surveys of typical rural counties. From the outset these surveys were conceived as studies not merely of the Church and its organization, but of the whole scope of the economic, social and educational life that provided the background for the Church's work. They were studies of rural life. The purpose of the surveys was not so much to effect local adjustments in the areas surveyed, though that desideratum was not lost sight of, as to furnish a body of authoritative data about country life in general, and the country church in particular, which would provide material for a widespread campaign

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of education and propaganda and furnish a basis for a program of reconstruction and advance. These were the first studies of the kind to be made on any considerable scale in this country.

From the outset this enterprise was a breaking of new ground. Rural sociology was not yet in its infancy. Rural social problems had had little consideration and less analysis. There was no clear conception of just what was involved; there were no tested schedules; nor was there any experience in methods of field work. The content and method of the surveys varied as the progress of the work brought knowledge of the field and developed a technique. With almost every new survey the schedules were modified, altered in form and arrangement, amplified in content, sharpened and clarified. The schedules now in general use have an extensive genealogy. They are the product not of a theoretical, classroom analysis, but, as good schedules always must be, of many years of field experience in which many individuals participated. These studies were carried on in fifteen states, ranging from Delaware to California and Oregon.

In one instance the survey was made with the active coöperation of the United States Department of Agriculture and the Bureau of Education. In another instance a state university coöperated. In most cases the results of these surveys were published. These bulletins, each containing a set of conclusions and recommendations in addition to its descriptive narrative and illustrated with photographs and charts, were widely circulated. They found their way into seminary and college libraries and classrooms as well as into the studies of pastors and church administrators. They influenced other religious organizations. Their results were widely quoted and they became a part of that growing literature which has helped to make clear the realities of our country life situation and to arouse interest in the measures necessary to its rehabilitation. Also, they helped to develop by experimentation, a method of analysis, a technique of field work and a set of serviceable schedules that in themselves provide good working outlines of the various rural interests and institutions.

About this time the rapid extension of the teaching of rural sociology brought with it a widened interest in social surveys. The field studies made by the various colleges and universities have been of many sorts and constitute an invaluable contribution. Some of them were studies of counties on the same broad lines as the surveys previously referred to. Others were intensive studies of particular communities. Still others were highly specialized in-

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quiries into particular problems. Subsequently, the United States Department of Agriculture entered this field of rural social analysis and is now, under the direction of Dr. C. J. Galpin and in coöperation with agricultural colleges, doing some of the most significant work that is being done in this field.

Rev. Charles Otis Gill in 1908-10 surveyed Windsor County, Vermont, and Tompkins County, New York. In this study the emphasis was placed upon church attendance as an index of the direction of religious change. In the Tompkins County report the results were in a measure correlated with the results of a study of farm labor income made by the New York State College of Agriculture at Cornell. In the preparation of the report Mr. Gill had the collaboration of the Hon. Gifford Pinchot and the results were published in a volume, bearing their names as co-authors.¹ Later Mr. Gill, as Executive Secretary of the Commission on Church and Country Life of the Federal Council of Churches of Christ in America, made a state-wide study in Ohio chiefly through a mailed questionnaire and by utilizing to some extent the results of the survey previously made in about half of the state by the Presbyterian Board of Home Missions. The results of this study were published under the title *Six Thousand Country Churches*.

The Interchurch World Movement, when it was organized in 1919, conceived the idea of an extensive survey of the entire rural area of the United States as a part of its projected surveys which were to deal not only with every aspect of our national life, but with the religious problems of our foreign missionary areas as well. Mr. Ralph E. Diffendorfer was in charge of the entire Home Survey Division and Dr. Edmund deS. Brunner of the Town and Country Life Department. With the assistance of many rural specialists, schedules were prepared which followed somewhat closely the general outline of those used by the Presbyterian Board of Home Missions. The unit of survey chosen was the county and, within the county, the social community. The most important new departure in these surveys was the defining and mapping of the community as the unit of study and organization and the mapping of the parish area of each church. The plan called for the survey of each rural county of the United States. The survey process of this organization has been described in *The Town and Country Church in the U. S.* Remarkable progress was made up to the time of the cessation of the Interchurch World Movement in 1921. Organizations had been effected in each state, and in 2,400 counties.

¹ *The Country Church*; Macmillan Co., 1913.

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The actual survey work was under way in 1,600 counties and was entirely or practically completed in 622 counties. It had been the intention to have in each county after the completion of the survey a follow-up conference to consider the findings of the survey and plan a definite program of adjustment and advance. It was expected that this would be the main usefulness of these surveys. A considerable number of such conferences were actually held and valuable results achieved. When the Interchurch World Movement came to an end, the survey was carried on in a number of places, notably in Ohio under its well-organized State Council of Churches. In that state the work was entirely completed and is the basis for the thoroughgoing program of interdenominational adjustment and church extension on which the religious forces of the state are engaged.

The Committee on Social and Religious Surveys, the name of which was later changed to Institute of Social and Religious Research, fell heir to most of the survey material of the Interchurch. It undertook specifically in the rural field to salvage certain data of value from that material. Twenty-six typical counties scattered widely through the United States were selected for intensive further study. The schedules for one hundred and fifty-three other counties were tabulated and the results used for comparison with the data drawn from the twenty-six typical counties. Partial tabulations were made for still other counties. This material is presented in detail in the other eleven volumes in this series, and in Part I of the present volume. Following the completion of this enterprise, the Institute of Social and Religious Research undertook the study of forty of the most typically successful Town and Country churches that could be found in the United States. The churches as selected were typical not only of the various sections of the country, but of various types of communities and of different denominations. The results of this study have been published in two volumes, *Churches of Distinction in Town and Country* and *Tested Methods in Town and Country Churches*.

Most of the surveys to which reference has been made have dealt with community institutions and general conditions and tendencies, rather than with families and individuals. The necessity of the household survey for the purpose of a local program was early seen and there have been many ventures in this field. Church boards, local congregations and Sunday school associations have been among those utilizing this method. The results are rather infrequently published, their significance being primarily local. It

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was part of the plan of the Interchurch World Movement to make such surveys on a considerable scale and to experiment with the technique therefor. Comparatively little progress, however, was made in this matter.

It is not possible in this present volume to attempt any thorough analysis of other forms of rural survey or to make any complete listing of all the available rural survey material. The main types of rural social surveys may be briefly summarized as follows:

First, *discursive testimonial surveys* of a broadly defined general field. The aim of this type of survey is the general definition of the terms of the problem. The study made by the Roosevelt Country Life Commission is a good example. This Commission traveled from place to place, held hearings, took testimony and secured data from many sources out of which it constructed its analysis of the rural life situation at large.

Second, a *reconnaissance* of a defined area somewhat larger than a community. The aim of this type of survey is general social analysis, the picturing of the structure of social life, its underlying factors, its institutions and its obvious outward manifestations, the whole opening the way to the formulation of a general program of advance and reconstruction. The surveys of the Presbyterian Board of Home Missions and of the Interchurch World Movement are good examples.

Third, *an anatomical or structural survey*, that is, a survey whose aim is primarily if not exclusively the definite delimitation of social units. This delimitation of social units figures in the surveys of the previous types, but primarily as providing a unit for the organization of other data. The studies made by Professor C. J. Galpin, formerly of the University of Wisconsin, in *Rural Social Anatomy* and the later studies of *Primary Social Groups* made by Professor J. H. Kolb, of the same university, are illustrations.

Fourth, *an intensive case-method survey* of a restricted local area. This is a household survey, the aim of which is to provide a detailed analysis of local conditions in individual terms in order to determine the program of a community or of a particular institution.

Fifth, *a topical or special subject survey* defined both in area and scope. These surveys have as their aim the exhaustive analysis of a single problem, usually considered in relation to the total life of the community in which it is found. The variations of this type of survey are numberless. Examples are health surveys, school surveys, road surveys, soil surveys, etc. Almost all of them utilize

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to a certain extent the technique of the general social survey and deal somewhat with general social material.

In conclusion, the chief contributions of the social survey so far to our knowledge of the rural field and our attitude toward it may be summarized as follows:

1. A vague sense that something was wrong with country life and country institutions has been replaced by a clear conception of just what is wrong and of just what must be done by way of remedy. Reasonably exact data have been assembled on a sufficiently adequate scale to give us a clear picture of the actual present status of country life. In this process the favorable as well as the unfavorable aspects have received emphasis. Initially the tendency was to stress and perhaps to exaggerate the disadvantages of the country. Doubtless there was for a time at least a lack of proportion and balance. The fundamental values of country life were obscured in much of the discussion. The saner view has come to prevail and current discussions amply recognize both the bright and the dark sides of the picture.

2. The structure of the life of the rural community has been revealed. Social science is dependent for its materials upon the analysis of particular communities. The community is the sociologist's laboratory. Rural sociology, from its beginnings as a separate science, has profited by the fact that it has had a mass of scientific data as to rural social structure and rural community institutions and, also, as to rural habits and attitudes, from which it could construct its generalizations.

The survey has clarified our knowledge of actual social groupings in the town and country area. The earlier writings in this field made very little of the community and usually defined it very loosely and with no uniformity of terminology. The finding of the natural social unit that would best serve as the basis of organization is a later interest. More is being written about this particular phase of rural social life at the present time than about any other. These discussions had to await some critical analysis in the field of rural associative groups.

3. The survey has analyzed the major regional and sectional variations that are of fundamental importance in differentiating local programs and administrative policies. A chapter in the summary volume in the series of which this present volume is a part develops these variations between regions in some detail.¹

4. The survey has given a clearer knowledge of the correlation

¹ *The Town and Country Church in the United States*, Chapter I.

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of the many various factors that enter into the consideration of rural life as a whole. For example, the interaction of economic, social, educational and religious factors upon one another is apparent in almost all survey reports.

5. In the specifically religious field, the survey has helped to shift the attention from questions of church machinery to the broader questions of the needs of the community as providing not only the background of the church's work, but also the only proper and adequate basis for its program. This has been a stage in that process of differentiation to which reference was earlier made.

6. The survey has provided some means of developing a technique of religious and social work by objective tests. In the church field, for example, the effect upon church efficiency and community welfare of the presence or absence of certain methods of organization and operation has given us at least a tentative standard for measuring the efficiency of particular institutions.

7. An obvious contribution of social surveys has been to provide some measurement of the unfinished tasks of the church and of social organizations in general. This is the justification for the survey's emphasis upon the unfavorable aspects of country life. It has made possible the description, with some definiteness and some assurance, of the work that remains to be done if a satisfactory and a satisfying standard of living in the country is to be established.

CHAPTER II

The Social Survey as a Tool for the Religious Worker

THE survey is an instrument of analysis, classification and adjustment. In religious work, clear thinking and effective operation necessitate a particularized approach to the problem of a particular church or community. This approach must take account of any variables in a given situation that distinguish it from other situations. These variables are of many different sorts and appear in many different ways. For example—

(a) We deal with particular populations or racial strains whose cultural, temperamental and other differences have obvious importance. The series of racial studies initiated by the Interchurch World Movement and since completed and published illustrates this. Protestant church work with different racial groups in America is a study in contrasts. A rural area whose population is woven from different racial strands confronts the religious worker with a composite problem. Thus among the older populations of Pennsylvania the most striking differences in religious experience and religious organization have a racial origin. In the Northwest notably, and in parts of the Middle West, there are many bilingual communities—English and German or English and Scandinavian—in all the religious and social life of which there is evident cleavage along racial lines.

(b) We deal also with a particular region, within which the characteristics of any population may be modified by conditions peculiar to that region. This appears in all the surveys of this series and is discussed in detail in the chapter on "Regional Variations" to which reference was previously made.¹

(c) Within a region we deal with particular localities, with a community or a neighborhood, or with some aggregation of related industrial or social units. What Dr. Galpin calls "social anatomy" is a factor of which account must be taken. An obvious weakness in much of the country church enterprise is the tendency to work "against the grain" of the community rather than with it. Few country churches have parishes in any very fundamental social sense

¹ *The Town and Country Church in the United States*, Chapter I.

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except where the church itself has been the center for neighborhood or community organization, which is rather infrequent. It is particularly true that the combination of a group of churches "on a circuit" ordinarily proceeds from ecclesiastical or financial rather than from social reasons. The term "parish" therefore carries much less of social meaning than does "neighborhood" or "community." Not infrequently, within the bounds of a single community there will be several churches of one denomination without organic relationship to one another or to the community as a whole. Each of them may be combined with churches in other communities. In such an arrangement the minister is at a disadvantage in that he lacks the opportunity helpfully to relate his life and work to a single community. The churches are at a disadvantage in that each of them deals with only a segment of the social life of its community and hence is unduly restricted in its outlook and unable to take advantage of the unifying tendencies that are binding people together in their social, economic and other interests. The community is at a disadvantage in that its religious forces do not make a united impact upon its life, in that they lack the facilities for creating a community-wide program and, if they are successfully maintained, in that they may tend to retard the process of wide-scale community organization.

(d) Within the community it is the exception rather than the rule to find an entirely homogeneous population, the racial factor aside. The town or the village breeds class distinctions almost as readily as the city, and class distinctions are by no means absent from the open-country. The denominational divisions of a small community are as likely to be rooted in social differences as in theological differences—much more likely, in fact. The church that undertakes community-wide service quickly becomes aware of this fact. It requires more than a pious wish to unite an entire community in one religious organization. Different groups have different characteristics, standards, needs, interests.

(e) Finally—or is it initially?—the church makes its appeal to a particular family or individual. The development of case-work, as the social worker understands it, is predicated upon the fact that each family or individual offers a specialized and personalized problem of social adjustment. General social policies can be applied in individual instances only as the peculiar circumstances in those instances are known and understood. For example, this definition of social case-work: "Social case-work consists of those processes which develop personality through adjustments consciously effected,

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individual by individual, between men and their social environment.¹ Make the last phrase read "between men and their social and spiritual environment" and it is an excellent definition of intelligent pastoral work.

The religious worker cannot escape a dependence upon the varying characteristics involved in these distinctions. They are the variables of religious work. It is possible, of course, to ignore them, and on the basis of general averages to attain a certain amount of success under average conditions. But even under average conditions such a practice leaves many untouched fringes. Where conditions deviate from the average, it invites substantial failure. On the other hand, social analysis will reveal the exact structure of the particular situation and permit adaptation to it. Some progress is being made in analyzing the different types of communities and in securing a measure of standardization of the institutional program best adapted to each. *Churches of Distinction in Town and Country* describes fourteen such types. But however much may be done along this line, the problem of local adaptation will always remain for the individual institution to solve.

Between communities, the differentiating factors that are likely to be of the greatest importance are of the following sorts:

(a) *Physical factors*, as natural resources, topography, soil, climate. These in the first instances determine to a large measure the type of industrial and social life that is possible. Thus it is obvious that a dry-farming area, with its relatively sparse settlement, because farms must average larger, lends itself to a different type of social organization than would be feasible, for example, in a fruit-growing area. So there will be differences in social and religious life as between a country with broken topography, occasioning many small, comparatively isolated communities, and a flat, open country where there are no natural barriers to social intercourse; or between a thin-soil region where wealth is limited and an area with large resources in timber, oil or minerals.

(b) *Economic and industrial factors*, that is, the type of developed industrial life, the degree of economic well-being, etc. Physical factors partly underlie these differences; but other considerations also enter in, as the type of available markets. Each of the major types of farming imposes a special routine upon those who practice it. The dairy farmer has of necessity habits vastly different from those of the cotton farmer. These professional habits in turn create social differences.

¹ *What is Social Case Work*: Mary Richmond.

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(c) *Historic factors* or, in the phrase of Warren H. Wilson, the "episodic factors."¹ The social, religious and political traditions of a community help to give it character and individuality. Two adjoining communities with much the same physical characteristics and economic activities may be actually very different because they represent different lines of tradition.

(d) *Social factors.* Social characteristics, in a particular instance, may be adequately explained by the foregoing. Or they may not. Marked variations in the standard of living, different levels of ethical standards, different sorts of cultural interests, degrees of aptitude in civic organization—such differences, whatever their source, are of the utmost importance in religious work.

Not only, therefore, is a particularized approach to the problem of the church necessary. Social and religious effort must register its results in its impact upon existing conditions; that is to say, the form of a program is not only influenced by the characteristics of the community in which it is to be used, but it must have in view the making of a definite contribution to local need. The importance, therefore, of social analysis is to enable us first, to think ourselves into the terms of a particular problem as it relates to a particular group or locality; second, to locate and define the individual elements in this particularized problem; and third, to assemble the elements of a constructive program and shape the forms and policies of an institution for certain intelligible and necessary ends.

¹ This analysis is similar to one made by Dr. Wilson and presented to his classes in Columbia University.

CHAPTER III

What Is Involved in a Social Survey?

TO some, the social survey seems a rigid, arbitrary and standardized process. They speak of "taking a survey," which somehow seems as simple and immutable in method and scope as "gathering the eggs." But there can be nothing fixed or rigid about a social survey. The very term takes its exact meaning from its context. A survey of what and for what? The survey is, in brief, simply a method of analysis in scientific and orderly form and for defined purposes of a given social situation or problem or population.

In ordinary usage the social survey may be said to involve these processes:

1. *A definition of the purpose* or object, which involves some conception of the kind of use that will be made of the material to be secured.

2. *A definition of the problem* to be studied. Before a survey can be commenced, there must be some understanding of what is involved or is likely to be involved in the problem studied. If an analysis is to be made of a church, there must be a reasonably definite notion of what aspects of church organization, equipment, program, constituency, etc., are important to the understanding of its work and the measurement of its success.

3. *The analysis of this problem in a schedule* or form of investigation. A schedule is a device to make the surveyor think clearly, fundamentally and uniformly as to the minimum essentials of the question he is studying. A good schedule provides an adequate outline dissertation on the question and is a sifted and studied expression of the purpose of the survey.

4. *The delimitation of the area* or scope or extent of the survey. This includes the geographical area within which the study is to be made, its chronological limits, and the measure of thoroughness and completeness with which the area selected will be covered. Later reference will be made to the chief variations in method with respect to this last consideration.

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5. *Examination of all documentary sources* and written records that are available as to the subject or area to be studied. These include census materials, local histories and similar records as well as the reports of any studies that may have been previously made.¹

6. The *field work*, or the assembling in scientific, accurate and orderly form, of the essential data called for by the schedules, together with such collateral and explanatory matter as in particular instances may serve to interpret the material secured.

7. The *arrangement, tabulation and statistical analysis* of the data secured according to such categories as are necessary to the handling of the results, and the reduction of the statistical material to comparable, measurable units. This involves a check on the completeness and the inherent probability of the schedule data and a possible return to the field for verification or completion.

8. The *interpretation of the results* in the light of the whole social situation from which the data are drawn and with particular reference to the problem or interest under consideration.

9. The *deduction*, from this interpretation of the elements, of a constructive, comprehensive policy with concrete recommendations for local use; a summary of important conclusions that have either local or general application.

10. It is usually desirable to give to the more important results of the study a *graphic expression* for teaching or propaganda purposes.

The limits, both in subject matter and method, of any social survey must in general be set by its purpose and by the possibilities of the particular occasion. In a definitely specialized study, the first consideration is, of course, adequately to cover all matters immediately germane to that subject. It is desirable also to broaden the scope of any inquiry sufficiently to show in what ways its special subject is related to other elements in the community's life. In a general social study the range of interest is naturally much broader; but in any survey the qualifying word "social" cannot be construed in too narrow a sense. What, for the purposes of the surveyor, is a social fact? When we study a given group from the point of view of a given interest or from the point of view of the totality of its social life, any fact that has a demonstrable relation thereto, and in so far as it has, is a social fact. Thus it is obvious that economic life, natural resources, education, health, civic organizations and many other things that are not commonly included in the term social, are nevertheless of fundamental importance for

¹ See *Field Work and Social Research*; Chapin, F. Stewart; pp. 19-45.

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the social student. The surveyor must have such interests in mind; but he judges his data concerning them according to the standard of his underlying purpose. For example, the social surveyor who studies the school, views it as a social institution and attempts to measure its place in the life of the community and the contribution it makes to community development. He judges it in these terms. He is not concerned with the purely technical problems that are inherent in the educational processes. The task of the social surveyor is to correlate all of the detached factors in any situation in one complete social analysis.

Paul U. Kellogg has noted five chief characteristics of the social survey.¹ Those characteristics are here indicated: (a) The social survey borrows the surveyor's principle of the subordination of subject matter to the idea of a definite geographical area. He localizes his problem and deals with it not in its general aspects alone but as it appears within certain defined geographical limits.

(b) The social survey borrows the scientist's principle of applying to problems at hand standards and experiences worked out elsewhere. The development of schedules used in social surveys from the early crude beginnings has been largely through a growing appreciation of the common as well as of the variable elements in community life. Given a diagnosis of a particular situation, a certain amount of effective standardization of method is possible.

(c) The social survey borrows the engineer's working conception of the structural relation of things. In this is stressed the danger of violating the "structural integrity" of the community. It is the task of the social investigator to put all of the forces in the community into their proper structural relationship to one another and to see the community situation whole rather than in segments. Thus it is idle in some farming areas to consider social or educational progress while ignoring the question of land tenure or farm labor income. It is idle to study juvenile delinquency and ignore the home, or to study adolescent morality and ignore recreation.

(d) The social survey borrows the charity organization's case-work method of bringing problems down to human terms and reaching conclusions "in the face of piled up actualities." The line of reasoning is not from the general to the concrete but from the concrete to the general. The problem is not to apply arbitrary general principles to particular cases, but to study particular cases and so to arrive pragmatically at the generalizations.

¹ *Social Survey: Pamphlet of the Russell Sage Foundation*; Paul U. Kellogg.

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(e) The social survey borrows the journalist's idea of graphic portrayal. The scientist may be content to state his conclusions in terms understandable only to other scientists. The social surveyor, being concerned primarily with facts in their relation to social progress, must speak to the average intelligence. He must seize upon the pertinent and the striking and set it forth in such a way that he who runs may read.

To these five characteristics may be added a sixth, that the survey borrows the statistician's method of reducing data to similar comparable units, assembling those items that logically belong together and applying to all items accurate units of measurement. A traveler reported having seen outside the railroad station of a European capital a blind beggar bearing a sign appealing for help, and setting forth the reasons for his predicament in the following table: "Wars, 2; battles, 5; wounds, 4; children, 5; total, 16." The social surveyor must define his categories. He is not adding factors at random, but adding factors that have a demonstrable relationship to one another and which properly combine to make a unified whole.

In the survey of an area such as a county, there are five main stages in procedure which correspond in a general way to five foci of interest. These also correspond to five aspects of the concern of the religious worker. First is the community as a whole. This is the larger setting of social activity. The streams of social influence flow freely through it. Population shifts here and there, usually under the impetus of definite social and economic forces, so that the trend of population change can be described and more or less accurately forecast. Institutions and agencies and services essential to modern life are provided. The individual or the group has part and place in it, is affected by it and makes some contribution to it. The first step in procedure, therefore, is to define the community.

Within the community are various groupings that have social significance. Some of these are geographically described as neighborhoods, but usually have some distinguishable element other than geography. Others are groups that are not in any sense territorially restricted but which represent either some level of society, some particular racial classification or the expression of some special interest that may be cultural, fraternal, occupational or whatnot.

The third important consideration is with respect to the institutions and agencies that are present in the community. These may be public, semi-public or private. Some of them are definitely specialized in the provision of a certain type of service. They include,

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in addition to the various branches of civic and business organizations, churches, schools, lodges, commercialized amusement or recreational agencies and many others. Some of these exist, theoretically at least, to serve the entire community, while others limit their attention to certain elements in the community.

In most surveys, certain topical elements stand out as of particular significance, as health, education, religion, schools, recreation. There are usually gradations in the community by class, group or neighborhood from the point of view of any of these interests. Various institutions and agencies are engaged in their promotion.

Finally, there is the individual. He is the ultimate focus of interest in any enterprise, the basic human actuality of any problem. The social process concerns the interactions of all of the individuals in various combinations and relations; but always, on the one hand, the individual and, on the other, the community emerge as of primary importance.

In the actual process of surveying the first step is the discovery and outlining of the community, and the second, the searching out of the various neighborhoods or groups that are sufficiently permanent and distinguishable from one another to make them separate factors in the life of the community. Each neighborhood or group may then be analyzed from the point of view of each of those fundamental needs that everywhere in one form or another are essential to a satisfying family and community life according to an enlightened standard of Christian living. At least ten of these fundamental needs must be taken into account:

1. Work, or an adequate economic opportunity. This is a basic question. By an adequate economic opportunity is meant an opportunity for such an investment of time and labor on the part of the various members of the household as is compatible with health and well-being and on such terms as will secure a sufficient return to maintain the family group intact, to support an enlightened standard of living, to permit of contribution to civic institutions and to social progress generally and of cultivation of some of the higher values of life, and to provide a measure of economic security for the future.

2. Home. Here are included, among other things, adequate housing with the conveniences and utilities necessary to physical well-being and comfort, a protected child-life and stable domestic relations, an opportunity to keep the family group intact, with adequate protection of each member in his status, rights and normal opportunities for development.

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3. Health. This is related to working conditions and to living conditions, including questions of personal hygiene; to sanitation; to public control of communicable diseases and also of conditions which may cause disease; to adequate medical, hospital and clinical services; to health-education and training in schools; to recreation and exercise; and to morals and social hygiene.

4. Citizenship. This concerns the whole field of civic relationships, both what the community does for the individual or group and what it asks from the individual or group. It also includes the degree to which the individual citizen has a social community of which he is consciously a part and toward which he has a civic responsibility.

5. Knowledge. This includes not only the functions of the elementary and high schools, but also of the library, newspaper, lyceum and other educational agencies. The need is for knowledge of at least these sorts—vocational and technical, that is, knowledge having to do with the method of earning a living; knowledge concerning the necessary elements in the standard of living; civic and social, that is, knowledge as to how to take part as citizens and neighbors in the community; and cultural and spiritual knowledge.

6. Play. This concerns the opportunities for the use of leisure time in such ways as will be self-expressive, physically developmental, socially instructive, to some extent character-building and, on the negative side, free from obnoxious factors.

7. Friendship: The normal associative opportunities of the community to a large degree determine the social-mindedness of the individual and also, to a large extent, his practical ethical standards.

8. Beauty and art. The proper and necessary place of the esthetic in life is having an increasing recognition.

9. Ideals, meaning by this, some consciously accepted and orderly philosophy of life to motivate personal and group conduct.

10. Religion, involving an emphasis on the importance of spiritual sanctions, the experience of worship as a socializing experience, the experience of service in relation to social responsibility and the opportunity for self-expression in one of its most fundamental aspects.

Each element in the community—group, clique, neighborhood—has a relation to each of these needs and a status with respect to it that can be defined. It should be ascertained what institutions and agencies exist with respect to each of these needs and to what extent they actually serve each neighborhood or group in the community. Such an analysis will disclose the weak points in the social

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situation, the untouched areas of need and the areas within which there is most overlapping of agencies.

Finally, such an analysis can be carried down to the individual or the family, though the general social survey does not specifically attempt and usually cannot attempt any complete enumeration. The local institution that would utilize the results must, however, attempt a complete enumeration of the population that it exists to serve. The data that are needed concerning the individual may be summed up in general under four main heads: First, the factors in his life that limit or retard his social and spiritual development; second, his particular needs in relation to those limiting factors that can be met through existing institutions and agencies or through others that may be created; third, the interests that will provide for such institutions or agencies the necessary points of contact; and, fourth, the abilities of the particular individual that can be utilized by an institution or a community as a whole in the carrying out of its program and for the individual's personal development.

From the point of view of a particular institution, this will need to be supplemented by a detailed analysis of its own equipment, personnel, program, organization and activities, over against the analysis of the needs of the community.

The rural survey has developed a certain technique rather different from the technique of the city or industrial survey. The town and country population is more widely dispersed. Its social gradations are less extended and more gradual. The distance factor is more important. Particular institutions are more apt to have a community-wide importance and to reach, theoretically at least, all elements of the population. Vital interest groups are usually not so sharply differentiated from the community as a whole. Professor Chapin points out that there are in general "three types of field work roughly corresponding to a three-fold gradation of social data: the individual, the group and the entire community." The complete enumeration, such as the census, corresponds in his analysis to the entire community. Sampling, or a partial canvass of a representative fraction, corresponds to the group. Intensive case-work corresponds to the individual. In the first type, the central problem of method is the organization of a field staff of untrained workers; in sampling, it is the selection of the part to be studied; in case-work, it is the trained field worker.¹ In the rural field, this analysis only in part describes the usual practice. The trained social worker is as yet a factor little known in the country community. Attention

¹ Chapin, F. S., *op. cit.*, pp. 47 ff.

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is being paid increasingly to those problems of social welfare that peculiarly require the trained social worker; but the field is largely undeveloped.

The variations in method corresponding to the different foci of interest that we are more apt to have in the country are these:

First, where the interest is in the entire community, a combination of three approaches, namely, a reconnaissance of the general situation, describing from the testimony of informed and responsible persons the outstanding characteristics of the community's life; a somewhat closer analysis of various samples of the whole, particularly if an obvious lack of uniformity is revealed in the general reconnaissance; and a more detailed study of problems and agencies.

Second, where the focus of interest is a particular group, as a church congregation or a neighborhood, a 100 per cent. enumeration of a certain few selected features, this data being desired primarily for the purpose of accurate and complete maps and for the compiling of lists of names for various purposes as, for instance, of prospects for church or Sunday school enrollment. If such a study is made coöperatively by different groups in the community or by different churches, it may well be community-wide in extent.

The three main essentials of a survey are the surveyor, the schedules and the map. The most important of these is, of course, the surveyor. In most of the published surveys in the town and country field, the field work was done by trained investigators. In the surveys of the Interchurch World Movement, the field work was done for the most part by volunteer and relatively untrained workers under expert supervision. In most surveys made locally for local purposes, the untrained worker is the only possibility. Certain general characteristics of a good surveyor are necessary whether the worker is trained or untrained. Having them, an untrained worker may, with a little experience, secure trustworthy and valuable results.

The first of these characteristics is that the surveyor must have an open mind. Positive dishonesty in the recording of facts we may eliminate from consideration; but honesty and open-mindedness are not the same thing. The surveyor must have no thesis to prove. It is comparatively easy to prove anything about anything by anything. The purpose of the survey is not to prove but to discover. There may be a working hypothesis if this remains *merely* an hypothesis which the investigator will dispassionately examine and discard if the facts do not bear it out; but it is easy to load the

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dice. Some minds are temperamentally unable to give full value to data that do not substantiate their preconceived ideas. In the second place, the surveyor must not only be open-minded, he must be persistent in his search for truth and critical not only as to the accuracy but the adequacy of the data offered him. Most people have an easy and a natural tendency to overestimate the extent and accuracy of their own knowledge of familiar things and to minimize the necessity of careful analysis. Almost everybody thinks he knows his own community and church and the other organizations with which he is connected and that any critical inquiry into the source and extent of that knowledge is gratuitous. Combined with this attitude is the general tendency of most people to over-emphasize those things that are favorable to their community or to the particular institution for which they have an affection; and this is only partly counterbalanced by the fact that in every community there are a few people who tend to overemphasize the unfavorable aspects of every question. For example, it is notorious that most people will overestimate the attendance at various kinds of public meetings. A surveyor who asked a minister what the average attendance was at his Sunday morning services was told that it was from 125 to 150. This did not seem likely to the surveyor, in view of other circumstances with which he was familiar, and he attended the service on the following Sabbath, discovering by actual count some 48 persons present. He asked a leading member of the congregation if they always had that many at service and was told that they sometimes did, but usually had rather fewer. The surveyor is an analyst who must take into account that the common knowledge of the common man will ordinarily not go beyond his ordinary daily needs. The surveyor, therefore, has to check opinion with opinion, and both with official data where available. The survey process must be characterized by a critical scrutinizing and analyzing of common knowledge.

In the third place, the surveyor must himself be accurate in all statements of fact and in all measurements. It is not wise to place too much reliance upon the workings of the law of averages. Of course, it is recognized that when you are dealing with a large mass of data and are interested only in averages or totals, errors that are not biased consciously or unconsciously are not likely to affect seriously the accuracy of your conclusions. Thus the Department of Agriculture's estimates of crop conditions, based upon the observations of a large number of experienced men, doubtless closely approximate the actual conditions. But in many instances

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a fairly consistent bias is likely to be present and an average will never correct errors that are all on one side.

Further, the surveyor must be reasonably sympathetic with the purpose of the inquiry he is making and with the people whose habits and institutions he is considering. We do not mean this to be inconsistent with the statement that he must have no bias favorable or unfavorable. Prejudice has a very subtle and disastrous effect upon accuracy. What we do mean is that the survey is more than the recording of facts and figures. It necessarily involves some judgment in the selection of material, some notion of the relationship of facts to one another and to the whole study, and some ability to sense the human meaning of facts. The surveyor who cannot see the values in the life of the people he is studying as the people themselves see them is not likely to do justice. He may count them accurately but he is likely to rate their value too low. Of course, there are other necessary qualities, such as tact, a certain facility for approaching people in such a way as to gain their attention and coöperation, and an adroitness in drawing people out. There have been surveyors aplenty whose very manner was such as to shut off what might have been sources of valuable information. A systematic and orderly mind is a necessary qualification. It is possible to get a mass of data that cannot be so organized as to make understandable results possible. On the other hand, more meager data may be sufficiently systematic to be logically and practically adequate to the occasion.

The experienced surveyor may in an individual instance make a satisfactory survey with any schedule or with none at all. The untrained worker, however, needs the guidance of a properly prepared schedule. In any case, where more than one worker is engaged on a study the schedule becomes particularly important in order to assure a necessary degree of uniformity in results. With the mechanical features of the schedules—size, form, type, spacing, stock, etc.—we need not here be concerned in any detail. Size and shape are dictated by convenience for use in tabulating, sorting and filing. For stock, either a good grade of bond with the sheets punched for use in a ring binder or a light-weight card is preferable. Type should be legible and questions spaced so as to permit the writing in of answers of reasonable length. Blank pages should be freely used for general comments. The most important consideration regarding the schedule concerns the arrangement of the material and the form of the questions. It is desirable that the material should be arranged in such sequence as will make the

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work of the surveyor as easy as possible. On some schedules, therefore, various topics are taken up in whatever order will lend itself to the most convenient and easy approach. On others the material is so arranged as to develop logically the subject being studied. Each method has certain advantages. For an example of the latter method, the community schedule prepared by the Presbyterian Board of Home Missions and also the form used by the Interchurch World Movement and the Institute of Social and Religious Research may be cited. On this form, after the name and the location of the community, the topics follow in this order: topography and natural resources, agriculture, industries and co-operative organizations, transportation and means of communication, population, the social mind, social organizations, recreation, social life, etc. This sequence is logical, proceeding from the basic underlying factors to those things that are the expression of the developed form of the community's life. On the other hand, the school and church schedules as used by these same organizations follow an order of convenience. After the primary questions of place and name, they both discuss, first, equipment. On the church schedule this is followed by finance, membership, services, etc., ending with the more personal questions regarding the pastor. This is because equipment offers an obvious and easy introduction. And so the study then proceeds by easy and necessary stages from topic to topic until it comes to the minister himself who is presumably the source of most of the information about the church. Under either method of arrangement all questions that bear on one phase of an inquiry should as far as possible be brought together, as should also the types of material for which the same sources of information are likely to be used. This obviates the necessity of much turning over of pages and the possible danger of overlooking material and necessitating a second interview.

The form in which the questions are asked is of the utmost importance. In general, there are three types of questions on a schedule —first, those designed to secure directly the concrete information that will be the immediate data of the study; second, those questions that are asked in such a form as to throw some side-light on the subject, to provide in some way a check or to illuminate some possibly obscure angle of an inquiry; third, all those questions that are asked not so much for information valuable in itself, as to indicate the attitude of the individual being questioned as an index possibly of the direction of the thinking of the community or of certain leaders in it. Occasionally a fourth type of question is

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added, namely, a question for what might be called homiletic purposes; that is, a question designed to suggest to the one of whom it is asked the importance of some angle of a familiar thing to which he may not previously have given much attention.

Of primary importance are those questions that aim to disclose facts; and they should be so stated as to disclose facts in their barest and most elemental form. Facts and value judgments or interpretations of facts should, therefore, not be confused on a schedule. If a question can be stated in such form as to permit of a "yes" or "no" answer, the possibility of misunderstanding is reduced. Certain types of questions can be advantageously stated so as to permit an answer by a check or by the use of some understood symbol. For example, if the question concerns the material of a church building, the most likely types of material can be stated and when used in a particular instance checked, place being left for the exceptional building that requires more extended description in that particular. The statement of a question so as to disclose facts as distinct from judgments involves two things. The first is that a question should be clear-cut and definite with the element of personal judgment reduced to the minimum, and so framed that different people of different ideas and prejudices can well make reasonable and comparable replies to it. Thus to ask if a certain schoolroom has adequate blackboard space, or if the boards are placed at a proper distance from the floor for the use of the children, will reveal nothing but the opinion of the person interviewed as to what may be adequate blackboard space, or the proper height. The next person interviewed may have a different idea on the matter. If the interest were in the ideas of teachers as to blackboards, that might be important. But if the interest is in the blackboards, it is very unimportant and in that case your result can be secured only by ascertaining the exact amount of blackboard space provided and the exact height from the floor at which it is placed. These facts can then be correlated with the number and age of the pupils and an intelligible judgment can be formed.

In the second place, all questions of condition or degree must be broken up into their basic elements. For example, a blank used in house-to-house canvass by a state-wide religious organization had, among other questions, one asking the "moral condition of this family." Such a question could obviously reflect only the moral judgment of the surveyor. What one surveyor would consider immoral, another would consider entirely respectable. If usable data on such a question are desired, they must be secured through

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questions as to those habits, associations and ideas of a family that would indicate its ethical level. If data, for instance, were secured as to the sobriety, honesty and record with respect to the courts, social and recreational habits, etc., of the members of the family, this data could then be used for interpretation, whether or not the particular surveyor happened to consider dancing or cards an evidence of moral depravity. Many questions on blanks in common use are mere prospecting. The results obtained from them have no scientific value aside from the light they throw upon the individual judgment of the person who uses the blank. Where a question deals with measurable facts as, for example, the amount of blackboard space in a schoolroom, or the size of an auditorium, measurements should be asked for and should be given exactly. Where standard classifications are available, as of types of houses, different sorts of sanitary arrangements, etc., these classifications should be used. Where the interest of a question is in a resultant state, as the social or moral or economic condition of a family, the facts that will indicate that state should be put in evidence. Where a question is to permit a judgment as to adequacy or desirability, which judgment necessarily depends upon the standards employed by the one who does the judging, the schedule should not call for the judgment itself, but for the facts on which the judgment may be based.

One other comment along this line may be made, the importance of which is not quite so obvious. Not only must the question be brought down to a point of fact, but the fact itself must be brought down to the unit of measurement which the informant uses commonly or can easily apply and on which his information is likely to be reliable with the danger of misconception reduced to a minimum. For example, in a study of farm income, if a question were to be asked as to the labor income of a particular farm, that would obviously be a question of fact, but it would be in a form in which the average farmer has no reliable data. His data are apt to be reliable as to the details of his farm operation, such as the amount of certain crops grown, the amount sold, price received for them, cost of the various phases of his farm operation, etc. Other items of a detailed analysis may be easily answered and the question as to what is his labor income may perhaps be obtained only through such a rather complicated process.

Frequent use may be made of what Professor Chapin calls "slant-wise" questions. This is on the supposition that in certain types of inquiries more accurate information will be secured by

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approaching the point from a tangent than by direct approach. Thus a certain survey of household management and conveniences was successfully conducted in terms of a survey of retail purchasing. It was easier to ask where a certain article was purchased than to ask whether the article was in the house; to ask what variety of tooth-paste was used and where it was secured was much more likely to yield accurate information than an inquiry that directly sought to ascertain if a tooth-brush were a familiar utensil in that particular household.

It is important to avoid questions that admit of vague or inconclusive answers. To glean from a survey schedule that a certain church building is in fair condition means almost nothing, except that it might be possible to grade all the buildings studied by one surveyor in some general order of repair. It is possible for questions of this sort to be made sufficiently objective and sufficiently exact so that the answer actually describes the thing to the person who reads the schedule in much the same manner as it appeared to the person who used the schedule on the field. After all, that is the main test of a successful schedule and of the successful use of any schedule, whether the data secured in the field work can be assembled in such a way that an intelligent observer of the results will get a mental picture of the situation described which will reveal that situation approximately as the field worker saw it.

In addition to the schedule, the map is an important accessory of the survey. In the survey of a city, or of a town of any considerable size, the important thing is a street map on a scale sufficient to permit the notation of different types of buildings and the exact location of various institutions. The ordinary uses of the rural survey, however, require chiefly a good road map on a scale of not less than one mile to an inch showing the main physical features—roads, railroads and trolleys—minor civil divisions, the various towns, villages and post offices. It is an advantage also if the map shows the location of farm homes.

There is not much uniformity the country over in the type of county map that is available. In some sections, excellent county maps are available, prepared by the County Surveyor or sometimes by the State Highway Department. In some few cases these maps are elaborate enough to show outlines of each farm. The United States Geological Survey has published topographic maps of a fair proportion of the country. These maps are rather intricate in their showing of topographic features, but are very useful in that they show also the homes, churches and schools outside of the

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larger incorporated places and, if of recent date, are consequently valuable as guides to surveyors. Their disadvantage is that they are not made on the basis of civil divisions and, in order to secure a map of an entire county, it is frequently necessary to piece together a number of different quadrangles; also, it not infrequently happens that only a part of the county is thus mapped. General guide maps furnished by the Geological Survey for each state indicate what areas have been mapped. In at least one state the state has coöperated with the Federal Office in assembling these maps on the county unit, which makes them much more available for ordinary uses. The color in which the geological maps are printed is somewhat of a drawback to their use in field work. The United States Post Office Department has prepared rural route maps of a considerable number of counties. These are blueprint maps whose most prominent feature is the public road system on which the rural mail delivery routes are indicated. Houses, churches and schools are shown, as well as a few outstanding physical features, such as lakes or rivers and the location of all post offices. Other types of maps are, of course, available in many instances; but there are still a good many counties in the United States for which no sort of a county map is available except as the county is included in a map of the state. In these cases the scale is too small for practical uses without making a pantograph or other enlargement.

A map is important to a survey in three ways. It is first important as a guide to the field worker, indicating to him the location of the various centers in the county and the transportation facilities that are available, including the public roads, enabling him to be sure that in his work the entire county is covered. Second, it is important as a record of the field worker's investigations. Thus it is necessary for a description of the boundaries of a trade area or of a neighborhood or of a church parish. It is important to secure the exact location of churches and schools and other institutions. The place of residence of important individuals, such as pastors of churches, can be best noted on a map that shows thus graphically the relationships of the various aspects of the community's life. Finally, the map is important as a graphic exhibit of the results of the survey in so far as those results can be expressed geographically. Thus, the relationship of parish boundaries to the church and to one another and to the community, the location of churches with reference to public roads, the relation of boundaries of different communities to one another and

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similar interests can be fairly set forth only by means of a map.

In the use of a map, it is necessary to have an agreed-upon set of symbols for the most common things that need to be noted thereon. There has been no agreement among the different agencies engaged in survey work as to uniform symbols. It has not been possible to date to secure any very considerable standardization in this matter. The variety of symbols needed is, of course, dependent upon the variety of interests of the particular survey. The map symbols used by the Town and Country Surveys of the Interchurch World Movement and the Institute of Social and Religious Research are given in the appendix.¹ The completed maps of these surveys ordinarily show, in addition to such features as the original map included, the boundaries of the community (name and population being noted); the boundaries of any clearly marked neighborhood within the community; by elimination, the neutral zones, that is, the areas not included within any community; the location and denominational name of each church; the circuit relationships of the churches and the residence of the pastors; the parish area served by each church and the distance between churches that are combined on one circuit; and separate Sunday schools maintained apart from the churches. Day schools and various social institutions have not usually been noted on these maps unless their buildings were used for religious purposes. Obviously, in a county having a considerable number of communities and a large number of churches, this means a very confusing interlacing of lines, and the resultant map has an exceedingly scrambled appearance. It is, however, what the ordinary map is not, a picture of the actual units of the population.

In the appendix will be found sample pages from the schedules used by the Committee on Social and Religious Surveys, now the Institute of Social and Religious Research, and also a topical outline of each of the main schedules. In each one of the regional volumes of this series will be found county maps that illustrate the method of mapping employed. The maps included in this present volume (with the exception of the one on page 43) have been prepared each to illustrate especially one particular feature; and they are not, therefore, good examples of the ordinary mapping process. The definition of terms of the Institute of Social and Religious Research and the general methodology will be found in each of the regional volumes as well as in the appendix of this present volume.

¹ See page 132.

APPENDICES

APPENDIX I

Methodology and Definitions

THE method used in the Town and Country Surveys of the Interchurch World Movement and of the Institute of Social and Religious Research, formerly the Committee on Social and Religious Surveys, differs from the method of earlier surveys in this field chiefly in the following particulars:

1. "Rural" was defined as including all population living outside of incorporated places of over 5,000. Previous surveys usually excluded all places of 2,500 population or over, which follows the United States Census definition of "rural."

2. The local unit for the assembling of material was the community, regarded, usually, as the trade area of a town or village center. Previous surveys usually took the minor civil division as the local unit. The disadvantage of the community unit is that census and other statistical data are seldom available on the basis, thus increasing both the labor involved and the possibility of error. The great advantage is that it presents its results assembled on the basis of units that have real social significance, which the minor civil division seldom has. This advantage is considered as more than compensating for the disadvantage.

3. The actual service area of each church as indicated by the residence of its members and adherents was mapped and studied. This was an entirely new departure in rural surveys.

Four chief processes were involved in the actual field work of these surveys:

1. The determination of the community units and of any subsidiary neighborhood units included within them. The community boundaries were ascertained by noting the location of the last family on each road leading out from a given center who regularly traded at that center. These points, indicated on a map, were connected by straight lines. The area about the given center thus enclosed was regarded as the community.

2. The study of the economic, social and institutional life of each community as thus defined.

3. The location of each church in the county, the determination

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of its parish area and the detailed study of its equipment, finance, membership, organization, program and leadership.

4. The preparation of a map showing, in addition to the usual physical features, the boundaries of each community, the location, parish area and circuit connections of each church and the residence of each minister.

The following are the more important definitions used in the making of these surveys and the preparation of the reports:

Geographical

City—a center of over 5,000 population. Not included within the scope of these surveys except as specifically noted.

Town—a center with a population of from 2,501 to 5,000.

Village—a center with a population of from 251 to 2,500.

Hamlet—any clustered group of people not living on farms, whose numbers do not exceed 250.

Open Country—the farming area, excluding hamlets and other centers.

Country—used in a three-fold division of population included in scope of survey into Town, Village and Country. Includes Hamlets and Open Country.

Town and Country—the whole area covered by these surveys, i.e., all population living outside of cities.

Rural—used interchangeably with Town and Country.

Community—that unit of territory and of population characterized by common social and economic interests and experiences; an “aggregation of people the majority of whose interests have a common center.” Usually ascertained by determining the normal trade area of each given center. The primary social grouping of sufficient size and diversity of interests to be practically self-sufficing in ordinary affairs of business, civil and social life.

Neutral Territory—any area not definitely included within the area of one community. Usually an area between two or more centers and somewhat influenced by each, but whose interests are so scattered that it cannot definitely be assigned to the sphere of influence of any one center.

Neighborhood—a recognizable social grouping having certain interests in common but dependent for certain elemental needs upon some adjacent center within the community area of which it is located.

Rural Industrial—pertaining to any industry other than farming within the Town and Country area.

APPENDIX I

Population

Foreigner—refers to foreign-born and native-born of foreign parentage.

New Americans—usually includes foreign-born and native-born of foreign or mixed parentage, but sometimes refers only to more recent immigration. In each case the exact meaning is clear from the context.

The Church

Parish—the area within which the members and regular attendants of a given church live.

Circuit—two or more churches combined under the direction of one minister.

Resident Pastor—a church whose minister lives within its parish area is said to have a resident pastor.

Full-time Resident Pastor—a church with a resident pastor who serves no other church and follows no other occupation than the ministry is said to have a full-time resident pastor.

Part-time Pastor—a church whose minister either serves another church also, or devotes part of his time to some regular occupation other than the ministry, or both, is said to have a part-time minister.

Non-Resident Member—one carried on the rolls of a given church but living too far away to permit regular attendance; generally, any member living outside the community in which the church is located unless he is a regular attendant.

Inactive Member—one who resides within the parish area of the church but who neither attends its services nor contributes to its support.

Net Active Membership—the resultant membership of a given church after the number of non-resident and inactive members is deducted from the total on the church roll.

Per Capita Contributions or Expenditures—the total amount contributed or expended divided by the number of the *net active* membership.

Budget System—A church which at the beginning of the fiscal year makes an itemized forecast of the entire amount of money required for its maintenance during the year as a basis for a canvass of its membership for funds is said to operate on a budget system with respect to its local finances. If amounts to be raised

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for denominational or other benevolences are included in the forecast and canvass, it is said to operate on a budget system for all monies raised.

Adequate Financial System—Three chief elements are recognized in an adequate financial system: a budget system, an annual every-member canvass and the use of envelopes for the weekly payment of subscriptions.

Receipts—Receipts have been divided under three heads:

- a. Subscriptions, that is, money received in payment of annual pledges.
- b. Collections, that is money received from free-will offerings at public services.
- c. All other sources of revenue, chiefly proceeds of entertainments and interest on endowments.

Salary of Minister—Inasmuch as some ministers receive in addition to their cash salary the free use of a house, while others do not, a comparison of the cash salaries paid is misleading. In all salary comparisons, therefore, the cash value of a free parsonage is arbitrarily rated as \$250 a year and that amount is added to the cash salary of each minister with free parsonage privileges. Thus an average salary stated as \$1,450 is equivalent to \$1,200 cash and the free use of a house.

APPENDIX II

Sample Page, Community Schedule

Filled out by.....

SURVEY OF A COMMUNITY

NOTE: For the purposes of this survey a community is defined as the unit of territory and population characterized by common economic and social experiences and interests.

(Put check above or after word or in blank space to show "there is" or "yes.")

(Put cross above or after word or in blank space to show "there is not" or "no.")

I. OUTLINE OF COMMUNITY

Procedure:

1. To determine the "drawing power" of each such trade center, secure the following information by inquiry from store-keepers, bankers and other informed persons. Within what distance, following out each road, do approximately all the homes trade at the stores in this "center"? Indicate on map location of furthest home on each road within territory so indicated. Connect these points by straight lines, so as to mark the boundaries of the trade community, which is the initial unit of this survey.

2. The territory *not* definitely included within the limits of any trade community should be considered in connection with the communities to which it is contiguous and to which it is most nearly related, and covered with the questions on this blank. It is particularly important that *no* area be omitted in the enumeration of population.

II. LOCATION

Name of Community..... County.....

Dimensions of community in miles, measuring from the "community center,"

north..... west..... south..... east.....

Topography: level, rolling, hilly, mountainous.....

Names of post offices.....

Number of rural routes and starting points.....

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Sample Page, Community Schedule

VI. SOCIAL ORGANIZATIONS AND SOCIAL LIFE

Name of Organization	No. of members	No. of meetings per month	Average attendance	Own a building?	Name the things of social and recreational nature provided by the organization, inserting the frequency and average attendance upon each—“P” if provided for pay, “S” if on Sunday.
The Grange: Lodges:					
Open societies and clubs:					
Organizations in the community not mentioned above:					

APPENDIX II
Sample Page, Church Schedule

Filled out by.....

SURVEY OF A CHURCH

State..... County..... Community.....

Location Designation on map.....

Denomination Attached to what other church or churches

Name of minister..... If pastorless, for how long a period?....

By whom supplied?..... When was work first started in this field?

When was church organized?..... When was present building erected?.....
How many pastors has this church had in the last ten years? (Give dates by
years and months).....

Information on this blank supplied by: name.....position in church.....

I. EQUIPMENT

Value land \$.....Church building \$.....Parsonage \$.....

Other building used for church or community purposes \$.....

Income property \$.....Material of church building.....

Condition.....Seating capacity, main auditorium.....

Total available seating capacity.....Method of heating.....

Lighting.....Toilets, indoor.....outdoor.....

Equipment for social and recreational purposes: stereopticon.....

moving picture machine.....other.....Give exact data
as to amount of use of stereopticon or moving picture machine.....

Number of rooms.....Dimensions and floor plan on reverse of sheet (give
use of each room).....Condition of parsonage.....

Amount of land with church.....Use.....Condition.....

Amount of land with parsonage.....Horse sheds.....

Convenient parking space for automobiles.....

Cemetery.....Condition.....

SOCIAL SURVEY IN TOWN AND COUNTRY AREAS

Sample Page, Church Schedule

IV. MEMBERSHIP

10 years ago.....	5 years ago.....
Total on present roll.....	
Non-resident	
Other non-active	
Net active members	
Families, number of	
Families, resident in town.....	
Families, resident in country.....	
Resident males over 21.....	
Resident males under 21.....	
Resident females over 21.....	
Resident females under 21.....	

V. OCCUPATION

Retired farmers in town.....
Farm owners
Farm renters
Farm laborers
Professional men
Business men
Others
Regular supporters, not members.....
Probationers or other prospective members.....
How many regular supporters are members of other denominations?.....

Sample Page, Church Schedule

IX. SUNDAY SCHOOL

Enrollment Average attendance Number of members living on farms
(Put one class on each line.)

Class	Enrollment M F	Range of ages	Org'd.	Graded Lessons	Teacher M. or F.	What Special Activities
Departments organized	Enrollment, cradle roll	Home Department	Teacher Training Class	enrollment		
By whom taught	course of study	Number of years in course	Frequency of meeting			
What provision for leadership training ?						
What special efforts are made to increase attendance of S. S. (contests, rewards, etc.) ?						
Number of rooms used	Number of months school is held	What special equipment for work ?				
Are S. S. papers given ?	Volumes in library	School picnic	Number of classes having class socials			
Other social times of school as a whole						
Special Organizations in S. S. (as athletic teams, musical organizations, etc.)						
Amount of mission study						
Are missionary offerings regularly given ?	To what organizations or board sent ?	With what result ?				
What does minister do in S. S.?	Decision Day observed					
Number of S. S. Pupils joining church in year	Is there a special class to prepare for church membership ?					
Number of young men and women in this church attending college or other school beyond High School grade ?						
Number from this church who have gone into the ministry or into other farms of employed Christian work in the past five years ?						
In the past ten years ?						

APPENDIX III

Map Symbols as Used by the Interchurch World Movement

	Railroads and Trolleys
	County Boundaries
	Outlines of Communities
	Neighborhood Boundaries
	Parish Boundaries
	Parish and Church Connecting Line
	Circuit Line
	Hamlet
	Town or Village Included in Rural Survey
	Large Town or Village
	Church—White
	Church—Colored
	Pastor's Residence Without Church—White
	Pastor's Residence Without Church—Colored
	Sunday School Separately Maintained Without a Church —White
	Sunday School Separately Maintained Without a Church —Colored
	Abandoned Church
	Church Inactive
	Circuits (Indicate Miles)
	School
	Grange or Lodge or Other Community or Social Building

NOTE—Indicate denominations wherever Church or Pastor's residence appears.

In case of towns and villages give population.

The symbol to indicate a Church organization without a building, which uses a school house, will be shown by putting the symbol for school within the square which designates a church. In like manner, the symbol for a hall can be used in conjunction with the square to indicate a Church organization which meets in a grange or lodge hall or other public building.

APPENDIX IV

Par Standard

THE Par Standard was developed by the Interchurch World Movement. It was worked out and approved by the Town and Country Committee of the Home Missions Council, and has, since that time, been approved by the rural survey supervisors of the Interchurch who represented every state in the Union and were familiar with the practical requirements of church work, and also by various denominational societies. The Standard has been projected, not as an ideal, but as a fair average of what a church might, in all reasonableness, expect to attain. In the use of it here, no attempt has been made to give comparative value to the various points included, which are by no means of equal value, but which all enter into a complete equipment and program.

SOCIAL SURVEY IN TOWN AND COUNTRY AREAS

PAR STANDARD TABLE

		<i>Sample County I</i>	<i>Sample County II</i>	<i>Total</i>
Adequate Physical Equipment	{ Up-to-date Parsonage Adequate Church Auditorium Space Social and Recreational Equipment Well Equipped Kitchen Organ or Piano Sunday School Rooms Stereopticon or Moving Picture Machine Sanitary Toilets Horse Sheds or Parking Space Property in Good Repair and Condition			
Pastor	{ Resident Pastor Full Time Pastor Service Every Sunday Minimum Salary of \$1,200 and Manse			
Finance	{ Annual Church Budget Adopted Annually Every Member Canvass Benevolences Equal to 25% Current Expenses			
Meetings	{ Coöperation with other Churches in Community Systematic Evangelism			
Parish	{ Church Serves All Racial and Occupational Groups			
Religious Education	{ Sunday School Held Entire Year Sunday School Enrollment Equal to Church Membership Attempt to bring Pupils into Church Special Instruction for Church Membership Teacher Training or Normal Class Provision for Leadership Training			
Program of Work	{ Organized Activities for Age and Sex Groups Coöperation with Boards and Denominational Agencies Program Adopted Annually, 25% of Membership Participating Church Reaching Entire Community			

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